

THE ROLE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES IN TEACHING AND LEARNING OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

¹SATYAVATHI VALLABHAPURAPU,²SUNIL GATADI,³D SRINIVAS

^{1,2,3}Assistant Professor

Department of English

Kshatriya College of Engineering

Abstract: As universe is stepping ahead and ahead the pace of change is also occurs everywhere. In each and every part of world footmarks of development can be easily identified. Social, economical and Educational changes prove the presence of digital technology. If we talk only about educational development then the ratio of application of digital technology get increased incredibly. In the field of Science, Technology and languages ICT is used at higher level.

This paper focuses on the applicability of digital technology in English language teaching and learning at the Under Graduate level of Arts, Commerce and Science colleges of Aurangabad city. So it helps to attain the LSRWC Skills of students. Digital technology helps to create very favourable and effective platform to learn English language.

Keywords: Digital Technology, under graduate level, Information and Communication Technology.

1. INTRODUCTION:

English language is reaching at its higher position day by day and without getting mastery in this language, it would be very hard to progress in the highly *techno savvy world* which is Globalized and Digitalized. Randolph Quirk and Widdowson say that, "English is the language on which the sun does not set, whose uses never sleep"¹. During second half of twentieth century, modern digital technology was used to support English language teaching and learning in the classroom of higher classes.

Importance of English language as bridge language or as universal language has been staidly increasing. It is really felt in India that, there should be sustainable development in English language teaching and learning. The vigour and capability of teaching and learning mainly rely on three basic factors; teacher, student and mode of interaction i.e learning medium.² Teacher teaches English language to students by application of digital technology, it means that teacher is using digital devises as mode of interaction. He modifies the content of teaching. Digital technology helps to manipulate the data in to meaningful information by proper blending of digital devises. New generation prefers more use of digital technology for learning different things in very short span of time. Teacher can make use of this feature of under

graduate students and try to give maximum knowledge of English language. The students use multiple sensory systems to gather information for learning language due to this; they get inspired to pay more attention on the information presented and try to learn it very easily. Digital technology used under ICT are Projector, PC, Laptop, Notebook, Digital videos, LAN, Mobile Phones, www, CD Rom, DVD, Email, Chat, Digital Libraries, Language Laboratory, Computer mediated conferencing, Video-Audio conferencing, Pager, iPods, Walkman, Transistor, VLE and many more.³

2. OBJECTIVE:

□ To find out the elements of the application of digital technological medium in conversation of English language teaching and learning.

□ To evaluate success of learner through the application of digital technology in English language learning.

□ To find out different applicable digital technologies as teaching aid of teacher in classroom of English language teaching.

3. USES OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY:

3.1 Email:

It is important digital technology which allows us to send messages to our friends and teachers. Teacher can send messages on student's mail id to learn about the chapter he is going to deliver in his class. Next day he can arrange discussion on theme of the chapter .and at last he can tell students to send their views on his own mail account.

He can send group messages by creating the group of students. He can make use of free Gmail, Yahoo, Hotmail service providers to create account of students or create it in his college. Teacher has to decide the exact *keypal* site for graduate students.

3.2 Blogs:

It is originated in 1990 and called as online diaries. Teacher can use Blogs to get feedback from graduate students of arts, commerce & science while learning English language. With the help of Blogs many comments can be collected from the students about the theme of the poem or prose at the same time can involved graduate student to learn grammar section e.g. The Articles in 1st year compulsory English language students book. Suels <http://suelonglishblog.blogspot.com> 4 is educational blog teacher uses with students.

3.3 Facebook:

It was started in Harward University room in 2004. Students are using it at large scale. Teacher can share story on Facebook to the group of students which was form on the basis of friendship. It is safe because if we choose close group option then it can be viewed by group members only.

3.4 YouTube:

Teacher can show it to students in class discussions and lecturers. Teacher can upload many video of native speaker to speak English language properly in the classroom. Eg. He can give more solved examples of types of sentences to students of 1st year in the classroom.

3.5 Twitter:

It helps to describe in 140 characters only. 18-24 is the age group of youth who were using it at very fast speed. Now a day's teacher starts to use digital technology like twitter in the class room to get the feedback of the students (*Bodge et.al, 2001*)⁵. Teacher can use his accounts to tweet on student's questions. The tweet conducted via the teachers account protects the student privacy issues. It helps to guide the students, collect the course material, and improve discussion & comprehension.

3.6 Skype:

Now a day it becomes one of the famous digital technologies for graduate college students. All of them are using it at very high speed. Here the user gets unlimited free call too. It can be operated with the help of

mobile (smart phones) & computer or laptop. IT can be used by peer to peer network .Skype help to do conversion by IM and Voice application. Students can hear different audio and video records of native speakers and try to develop their own pronunciation.

3.7 WhatsApp:

It is used with the help of smart mobile phone. Teacher can send messages about latest updates and lesson which he is going to teach in the classroom. He can tell students to collect the information about the pronunciation of words in the native speaker's language, so that they can become able to speak proper words. He can tell students to work in peer groups, so that they can able to discuss the theme of prose and poem in the classroom.

3.7 Hike:

It is also one of the important messenger apps which are used in India on large scale. It is also used by many college students for transferring data on large scale. Teacher can use it to teach student of colleges to improve their listening speaking, reading, writing and communication skill. Teacher can teach them types of sentences by sending them contain related to examples of sentences. It is also used for sending themes of poems and prose in the classroom.

3.8 Mobile:

Mobile is used in many foreign countries as a means of educational study. Although Mobile learning concept is very latest, near about 16.6 million Canadian individuals subscribed to mobile communication service till 20056 . Teacher can play the record of Ravindranath Tagores poem, Then he will explain it and tell students to exchange their view about the theme of poem. poem and tell them to give reply on different app which they use for communication on mobile like Whats App, Chat App, and hike.

3.9 Satellite:

ISRO started the EduSat project in 2002. It is first important satellite for assisting the educational sector. It is helpful in distance education through audio-video medium, employing DTH quality broadcast. The satellite has multiple regional beams to cover different part of India. Five Ku-band transponders help to cover northern, north eastern, eastern, southern & western region part of country. Edusat satellite is the best

example of digital technology which serves the needs of urban & rural people. Due to the launch of Edusat on 20 September, 2004 it become possible to provide efficient education at the National, regional & state level.

Table 1.1: The Channel Count for Education purposes by Satellite

Sr. No.	Content	Remarks	No. of channels
1	School Education	One dedicated channel per state	28
2	Higher and Professional Education	One dedicated channel per state	28
3	Language Learning	Indian and Foreign languages	01
4	Youth Channel	Education in Sports , Music, Dramatic etc	02

Source: J. C. Aggarwal, *Essential of Educational Technology Innovations in Teaching-Learning*, 3rd Reprint (New Delhi: vikas publication, 2009) p.297.

3.10 Podcast:

“Pod” word’s prefix comes from the expression “play on demand” 7 . Graduate students can use it as recording of audio material for learning English language in the classroom of colleges. With the help of podcast students and teachers can record related material of English language content and at the same time teacher can give instruction on their personal computers or mobiles. It can be used to record the poetry or novels of English writers at the same time structure of English language too.

3.11 CD-ROM:

It is helpful for storing information of permanent nature; it means that when power

supply get switch off its store data remain as it is. It is easily available, low cost and high speed. Use of CD-ROM at home is possible for students. They should have access to computer. Pairs of English language learners can do few activities with CD ROM e.g. a couple of grammar drag-drop-activities. CD-ROM content can project on projector. All students can see the theme of lesson & letter on it can English language discussed.

3.12 D.V.Ds

Teacher can show many films on computer by projector or with the help of DVD player to the graduate students and on the content he can start the questions and answers session in the classroom, like this he can check the comprehension of students also. He can make students able to hear the native speaker’s records at home and tell them to do discussion on it in the classroom. He can allow students to do role play by switch offing the audio.

3.13 Language Laboratory:

Language laboratory is used in the higher education. It gets started from 1991 in technical college. He can take them to language laboratory and tell them to hear the records of native speakers and then tape it on audio tape recorder of teacher. The audio activated headset thus provides immediate feedback to the student’s .The milking machine has now thus the audio active laboratory

3.14 Virtual Language Environment

It includes computer conferencing, access to remote database, email, www etc. Learner can give response to teacher with the help of any application used in computer or mobile e.g. teacher can teach to 1st year under graduate students about punctuation marks by using email. Then we can get response mail from his limited students to whom he sent email. He can check email in his free time & can discuss it in the classroom. Here we have reliable high speed of digital communication.

3.15 Tele Conferencing:

It is live conversation using telephone lines or satellite in the form of two way communication by connecting learners at different places. Audio, video and computer conferencing are types of it. Teacher can make use of it and organise discussion between students and native speakers.

3.16 Whiteboard:-

White Board is a way of learning with the help of computer, projector and White board. Computer should have interactive white board software installed. Projector help to show images from computer screen to white board screen .Teacher use marker to explain the content on White boards. It can be also used with wireless P.C. The most famous size is 190cms (75 inches) across it is easy to mount any wear. Teacher can give ample practice to 1st year graduate students for solving the example grammar section on white board.

4. CONCLUSION:

In this manner teacher can make use of technical skills of students to improve the listening, speaking, reading, writing and Communication Skill of students. Teacher can make use of different digital devices to focus on English language teaching and learning and try to find out different ways of making English language learning to be very effective. In this manner present study helps to increase the maximum response of teacher and student in teaching and learning of English language.

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