IMPORTANCE OF USING ICT IN TEACHING LISTENING SKILLS AT SCHOOLS

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Abstract: This article discusses the importance of using ICT for teaching listening skills at schools effectively. In the article there are given advantages of ICT while teaching listening for school children.

Key words: listening, ICT, classroom activities, using short videos, modern technologies, audio materials.

Introduction

In today's digital age, the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has become increasingly prevalent in various aspects of education. One area where ICT can significantly enhance the learning experience is in teaching listening skills. Listening is a fundamental skill that plays a crucial role in a student's academic and personal development. By incorporating ICT into the teaching of listening skills, educators can create a more engaging and effective learning environment for students. One of the primary benefits of using ICT in teaching listening skills is the ability to provide students with access to a wide range of authentic audio materials. With the help of digital resources such as podcasts, online videos, and audio recordings, teachers can expose students to a diverse array of accents, speech patterns, and real-life conversations. This exposure not only helps students improve their listening comprehension but also enhances their understanding of different cultural contexts and perspectives.

Furthermore, ICT offers various interactive tools and platforms that can be used to develop students' listening skills in a dynamic and engaging manner. For example, teachers can utilize multimedia presentations, interactive quizzes, and online listening exercises to create interactive and immersive learning experiences for their students. These interactive resources not only cater to different learning styles, but also make the learning process more enjoyable and stimulating for students. Moreover, ICT enables teachers to personalize and differentiate instruction based on individual student needs. Through the use of digital learning platforms and adaptive software, educators can tailor listening activities to address specific areas of difficulty for each student. This personalized approach allows students to progress at their own pace and receive targeted support in developing their listening skills.

Additionally, ICT facilitates the integration of real-time feedback and assessment into listening activities. Teachers can use audio recording and playback tools to provide

immediate feedback to students on their listening performance. This formative assessment approach helps students identify their strengths and areas for improvement, ultimately leading to more effective skill development. Furthermore, the use of ICT in teaching listening skills can also foster collaboration and communication among students. Online discussion forums, virtual group projects, and collaborative listening activities can promote peer interaction and the exchange of ideas, thereby enhancing students' listening comprehension and communication skills.

Learning a foreign language, especially English, opens up many opportunities for EFL students. Some may seek better job prospects, while others want to study abroad. Some may just want to learn about different cultures and countries. Regardless, learning a language is a long and complex process that involves more than just speaking. Students often aim to improve their four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Teachers must help their students achieve their language goals by providing them with the necessary tools. However, teachers often focus too much on speaking and writing and neglect listening and reading skills. But they are crucial skills for students to understand and communicate effectively in the language. Listening is critical as it improves vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, and the ability to express ideas. However, developing listening skills is not easy as it requires students to understand language in different contexts and how pronunciation and stress change when speaking [1]. To teach listening skills is not easy. It has its own difficulties. For this reason, teachers should use ICT while teaching listening skills. Because with the help of ICT teaching listening can be conducted easily. For example, with the help of music or cartoons students may increase their listening skills and also their pronunciation.

The globe didn't have airplanes, radio, or television when the XX century began, according to Pannu, P., and Tomar, Y.A. With nuclear energy, space travel, computers, cell phones, and wireless internet, it entered the twenty-first century [2]. After the development of internet information and essential resources widely spread around the world. This information and resources may help students increase their critical thinking and worldview. And with the help of these resources, they may do their self-study.

Within a century, completely new science and technology fields emerged. In many areas of progress, the twenty-first century is a time for digital revaluation. As the globe becomes more socially, economically, politically, and commercially interconnected, ICT use will alter to become more contemporary and digital. Without ICT technology, many fields will be excluded in the modern day. The function of ICT at the global level will help to establish the new sophisticated social, economic, and political life. ICT "helps in improving the quality of education," according to Ejigu, B. The statement makes clear that information and communication technology is a crucial tool for transforming the current solitary, teacher-centered, and book-centered learning

environment into one that is pupil-centered. Technology, according to Pannu, P., and Tomar, Y. A., "has propelled the unprecedented levels of prosperity enjoyed by developed countries." Technology is a very potent weapon for social transformation and development in the modern, rapidly changing world. Information and communication technology (ICT) have played a significant role in several developments in the twenty-first century [3]. After the development of ICT quality of education was raised. Because it makes teachers' work easy. Nowadays a lot of teachers prefer to use ICT while teaching foreign languages. It is also a good guide not only for teachers but also for students to improve their skills.

Jorge Fernando Chimbo Portoviejo and Erika Priscila Narváez Castillo conducted a research project entitled "The use of authentic audio materials for developing listening skills in the EFL classroom", which is related to the previous monograph. This project aimed to analyze the effects of using authentic audio materials on EFL students' listening skills. The research begins by defining listening and emphasizing the importance of developing this skill in students. Additionally, the project discusses the challenges that students face during listening activities, such as vocabulary, unfamiliar topics, and accents. The research results highlight the benefits of using audiobooks and podcasts, improving students' listening and pronunciation skills and enhancing their attitude and motivation. In the article "Using audio materials in teaching English at different levels of learners (songs, audio and radio recorders, rhymes and films)" by English teacher Ganisher A. Jurayev, the importance of using audio materials in classes is recognized. The article expands on the previous research about the use of audiobooks and podcasts and discusses the benefits of using songs and the radio in English language learning. These resources not only allow students to learn in a stress-free and comfortable environment but also improve their vocabulary and understanding of grammatical structures and sentence patterns. Overall, the use of audio materials is a valuable tool in teaching and enhancing English language skills. In their study titled "Investigating Students' Perception Using Audio-Visual Material in Listening Class", Iswahyuni Rahma Fitria and Widya Catherine Perdhani discuss how audio-visual materials can be used in classrooms. The study explores the benefits and perceptions of using such materials in listening classes. The authors note that Generation Z is accustomed to interacting with technology and multimedia, leading students to feel more motivated to learn with audio-visual materials than with traditional methods. Additionally, the ability to replay the audio at any time enhances students' attitudes and increases their attention to what is being said in the classroom. The study titled "Listening Comprehension in English Language Teaching: The Didactic Treatment of Audio-Visual Materials" by Rosemary López Palomares, Michel Enrique Gamboa Graus, and Luis Manuel Ferrás Mosquera explores the challenges faced by English language students in different university courses when it

comes to listening comprehension. The study emphasizes the importance of incorporating audio-visual materials in language teaching and highlights the crucial role that teachers play in the learning process of listening skills. Teachers should consider using audio-visual materials and alter their approach to traditional teaching materials. They should also note the positive impact audio-visual materials have on students' progress in learning the English language [4]. The role of teachers in teaching listening skills is vital. Because teaching and learning listening is not easy. With the help of audio-visual materials, tutors improve students' listening skills. And it's the best way to teach listening.

This study demonstrates how ICT tools can help pupils improve their listening abilities through an analytical examination of performance differences. This study uses ICT technologies to examine the listening abilities of rural engineering pupils who are academically behind their peers. The use of technological tools helps both language teachers and pupils improve their communication skills. In this study, the researcher focuses on a novel use of technology to improve the listening skills of engineering pupils from rural areas with low educational attainment. to encourage kids to use technology when it is required for learning. The application of ICT tools for improving listening skills and an analytical examination of performance variations among the pupils have been the main foci of this research. The exposure of pupils from educationally underdeveloped block territories in rural areas to language acquisition and the development of communication skills is lower. This project's fundamental objective is to transform how people learn to use technology to make communication skills development simple and quick. The use of ICT tools for listening skill development is a new strategy to revolutionize the conversion of traditional teaching methods to digital ones [5]. Now we live in technological world. Both teenagers and young children are interested in using phones, the internet, and playing online games. If we use ICT tools for teaching listening skills, we may encourage them to learn foreign languages—for example, the application Duolingo is the best example of learning a new language. Pupils now interact in real life and communicate in new digital settings thanks to a variety of ICT devices. Before the recent change in technology development, the use of technology was first focused on language learning and teaching, but it has since undergone a tremendous revolution in the fields of education, health, economics, trade, and commerce. Even after class, face-to-face engagement and easy communication between pupils and professors are commonplace. ICT tools are a critical component of how easily people may communicate using a variety of resources, including computers, the internet, mobile phones, email, and other tools. The pupils and pupils are tremendously helped by ICT tools to exchange information through technology and make things possible. Through digital resources, teachers could easily share their notes and other materials, and pupils could more

quickly ask questions and get answers to their doubts [6]. Teachers should pay attention while teaching listening skills to school children. They should use more ICT tools when they teach school children. Because these aged pupils are bored easily. If teachers use only books for teaching listening skills, they don't learn anything but with the help of ICT tools learning new things is more fun. The use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in teaching listening skills at schools has significant importance and can greatly enhance the learning experience. In conclusion, ICT facilitates personalized learning, provides access to authentic listening materials, offers interactive and engaging activities, and allows for immediate feedback and assessment. Firstly, ICT enables personalized learning by catering to individual learning styles and paces. It can provide students with a range of listening materials suited to their proficiency level and interests, allowing them to develop their listening skills at their own pace. Additionally, ICT grants access to authentic listening materials such as podcasts, online videos, and audio recordings. This exposure to real-life language use helps students develop an understanding of different accents, tones, and contexts, which is crucial for improving listening comprehension.

Conclusion

ICT offers interactive and engaging activities for teaching listening skills. Various multimedia resources and language learning applications can create an immersive learning environment that captures students' attention and motivates them to practice listening in an enjoyable manner. Furthermore, ICT allows for immediate feedback and assessment, which is essential for the development of listening skills. Interactive exercises and online platforms can provide instant feedback on students' performance, enabling them to identify areas for improvement and track their progress over time. In conclusion, the incorporation of ICT in teaching listening skills at schools enhances the learning process by providing personalized learning opportunities, access to authentic materials, interactive and engaging activities, as well as immediate feedback and assessment. Therefore, integrating ICT into listening skill instruction can significantly benefit students and contribute to their overall language proficiency.

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