

# Using Technology in Foreign Language Teaching

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**Abstract.** The article discusses the significance of teaching culture and cross-cultural communication in foreign language classes to develop students' language skills and outlooks. Language learning is a complex and challenging endeavor.

The globalization has necessitated the learning of English communication skill in an international perspective. Moreover the text materials on the subjects of technical education, science and medicine are available in English. English communication skill learners who are academically proficient in their first or native language represent differing levels of academic experiences, abilities and interests in addition to their language proficiency. Teaching requires creativity, there are lots of different methods, strategies and techniques that can be applied and brought into classroom. Any teaching technique or method including portfolio based instruction will not be successful if students are not engaged in the process. Techniques are closely related to methods and approaches. Different theories about the nature of language and how languages are learnt (the approach) imply different ways of teaching English communication skill and different methods make use of different kind of activity. With the advent of new millennium, trends have been changed and consequently new challenges have to be addressed with new language teaching which can conveniently be used in English communication skill teaching with the most suitable, reliable and homely examples of real life situations. The needs of the students must be addressed in a better and easier way to make sure of them about their learning the English communication skill.

Teaching and learning may be considered as two mutually defining aspects of the same process for the teacher is not just a giver but also a receiver and the learner is not just passive recipient of made to measure packages of knowledge but also an active participant. Looking at this teachers and learners are both participants in an interaction activity which has been traditionally called teaching learning. For human beings' interaction with objects, animate and inanimate goes on. The communicative movement has significantly influenced course design and instructional materials in the recent years. In order to produce effective communicative materials a lot of efforts are required on the part of material producers. Computers were introduced to the language learning field as Computer Assisted Language Learning and many enthusiasts strongly advocated their use, espousing the many advantages they could bring to both language learners and teachers. More recently, information and communication technology in the form of e learning and the Internet have presented additional benefits to the learning environment as they enable the integration of virtually unlimited multimedia learning materials from external sources into the curriculum and make them available to students at any location in the world (distance education) where there is a computer, mobile phone or tablet device with Internet access

The application of computer technologies in language instruction provides a student-centred learning environment. It enables course administrators and teachers to vary lesson presentation styles to motivate students of varying interests, provides learning opportunities outside the classroom (hence increasing learner interaction with the language), and is perceived to cater more for individual differences. In order to achieve the full benefits of information and communication technology in any foreign language teaching institution, however, certain conditions have to be met. These include the availability of computers and e-learning professionals, and the presence of a solid infrastructure, which is paramount to the success of any information technology integration. It is but natural that if instructors lack skills in using

technology, they will opt not to use it at all even if it is available. In addition, teachers' attitudes towards technology use in the language classroom have also been found a main determiner of the degree of technology integration in the curriculum and of its success.

English language teaching has undergone tremendous changes over the years, especially the last ten years. Communication is the groundwork based on which any idea can progress and develop into a fully fledged one. Without that, sustenance in any field is impossible. During the last decade, various crucial factors have combined to affect the current ideologies of teaching of English such as the ineffective methodologies, unsuitable materials, and integration of contextualized teaching, over emphasis on multi language skills etc. Teachers who practiced Grammar Translation method during the previous decade solely relied on black board as the apt tool to impart communication skills and the nuances of English language. Later on, over head projectors, acted as another medium for the teacher dominated class room. Such teachers believed in the dictum of drill and practice. Researchers had given more emphasis on authentic and meaningful contextualized discourse. Then they focused on a successful adult second language learning as a parallel process to a child's first language acquisition. With the advent of ecommunication, it has been made possible for the English language teachers to enrich their profession. Basically, the teacher controls the instructional process, the content is delivered to the entire class and the teacher tends to emphasize factual knowledge. The process of English communication learning will be more student-centered but less time consuming. Therefore, it promises that the teaching quality will be improved and students' applied English communication can be effectively cultivated, meaning that students' communicative competence will be further developed. There are significant and complex student-teacher interactions inside and outside the classroom. In a knowledge based society and to remain competitive and employable, teachers are expected to engage in a continuous professional development or the professional learning activities from the beginning to the end of their careers. As with any other profession, teachers are also expected to assume a greater responsibility for their own professional learning, continually developing their knowledge and skills. New trends in English language teaching like interactive approach of teaching. To interact means to communicate which each other during interaction. Its means give the information, thoughts unknown to receiver. Interacting Approach it related to the actual use of language. So interactive teaching styles are Brain Storming, Think pair and share, Buzz session, incident process, Q and A session. In Interactive approach some ideas are follow the leader, Total Physical Response, One word, Opposite Arguments, Test Tournaments, YouTube Videos Quizzes, Electronic Role Playing, Puzzle pieces. During selection of innovative methods following criteria taken into account:

- Creating a comfortable and supportive atmosphere for student, promotion of natural interest and desire to learn a new foreign language.
  - Involvement of emotions, feelings, experiences in the educational process to stimulate verbal, written and creative abilities.
  - Use of the cognitive approach in the educational process.
  - Call to work with the language on their own at the level of emotional and physical capabilities.
- Communicative language teaching emphasize on the process of communication rather than the mastery of language and also real meaningful communication rather than the activity, topic and situation which are artificial and remote from student's lives.

Web based learning is one of the fastest developing areas. There are thousands of English web based classes that offer trainings for a variety of basic language skills such as Learning, Speaking, Reading and Writing and are made interactive in a variety of ways. Some of the common technologies a available for promotion of education are as follows: The students can correspond with native speakers of the target language using a email by creating a personal email account (g-mail, yahoo, hotmail, etc) which is free. The students can mail their home work to the teachers concerned and get it corrected in turn. The teacher can also provide revisions, feedback, suggestions for the betterment of every work and send them back. A blog is a personal or professional journal frequently updated for public consumption. The blogs enable uploading and linking the files which is very much suited to serve as on line personal journals for students.

Blogging becomes communicative and interactive when participants assume multiple roles in the writing process, as readers/reviewers who respond to other writer's posts, and as writers-readers who, returning to their own posts, react to criticism of their own posts. The readers in turn can comment on what they read, although blogs can be placed in secured environments as well. Every internet service has audio functions, and technological instruments like laptops with cameras.

The students could communicate with their teachers and friends who are far away. Likewise, they could very well communicate with the speakers of native language and get their pronunciation checked so as to improve their speaking. Learners can search for new words using dictionary option in the mobile phones and enrich their vocabulary. They may verify the spelling pronunciations and usage of the specific word they searched for. Moreover, they can use Short Message Service (SMS) to send queries to their instructors and get their doubts cleared. iPods', one of the multimedia devices, enhance to users to generate, deliver, exchange texts, image, audio and video scripts as per the requirement. The teachers send text messages and the students can read and answer to them.

These days, the consumers of electronics are giving glimpses of ground breaking devices purely meant for students. These showpieces are ranged from 3D printers to smart watches. The youth's requirements are matched by a new age device, be it studies or social media, travel or portability. The media streaming devices like the Google chrome cast and the Roku make group studies become interactive and presentations surprisingly fulfilled one. One has to stream the media on to a smart TV using dongle. Another blessing is the e-reader for the on-the-move generation. The all new-kindle paper white is a boon. Students can just tuck in the e-reader for easy reference. The portable document scanner like the Doxie Flip Cordless Flatbed Photo and notebook scanner are used to get notes sorted. Other devices like copy and Olympus which have come with voice recorders can be utilized to record all the English lectures and be played as and when time permits. A Common Frame Work of Reference for Languages aims to provide a common basis for the elaboration of language syllabuses, curriculum, what learners have to learn skills they have to develop so as to be able to act effectively. A clear description of the content in terms of linguistic competency, sociolinguistic competency and pragmatic competency constitutes a language. Using descriptor scales, learner's proficiency is measured. Descriptors consist of a series of can do statements which received a great deal of attention. The learner's involvement and teacher's empowerment are stressed during the teaching and learning processes. The conventional method of teaching wherein the teacher enjoys the monopoly of teaching sometimes even obliterates the pressure of the learners. The teacher's role is not shunned altogether but is restricted: the teacher is expected to be guide by the side.

The role of teachers how will describe as follows:

1. Facilitator
2. Independent participant
3. Needs analyst
4. Counselor
5. Group processing manager

In conclusion, across the world, information technology is dramatically altering the way student;

faculty and staff learn and work. As the demand for technology continues to rise, colleges and universities are moving all sorts of student services, from laundry monitoring to snack delivery online. Technology is also changing the classroom experience. In addition, tablet PCs, compact computer that allow you to write notes directly onto the screen with a special pen, replace the archaic projector. With the tablet technology allow professor to make notes on charts and spreadsheets and send them directly to their student's PCs. The researchers believe that the objective of teaching is passing on the information or knowledge to the minds of the students. Any method using computers or modifying the existing conventional chalk-talk method are innovative if they ultimately serve the attainment of core objective of teaching.

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