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TECHNOLOGY INSPIRES CREATIVITY IN A TECHNO-FUELED WORLD

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Abstract:

Multimedia technology has played a major role as a better tool to explore the new teaching method. In fact, multimedia technology has played an important role in English language teaching, especially among non-native English students by using technology in an effective manner. This paper aims to analyze the use of technology to English language. It also aims to make English teachers aware of the strategies to use it in an effective manner.

Key Words: English Language Teaching, Multimedia Technology & Creativity.

Introduction:

Technology derived from the word ‘techno’ meaning technique, art or skill, and ‘logos’ which means science. So technology can be defined as a scientific knowledge of art or skill. Technology in the classroom is a relatively new area of discussion. But this newness gives teachers and students an opportunity to do something exciting with learning – experiment.

As Kevin Ashton says

*“Creation is not a moment of inspiration
but a lifetime of endurance”*

Creativity helps build new ways of thinking. Creativity is the act of turning new and imaginative ideas into reality. Creativity is characterised by the ability to perceive the world in new ways, to find hidden patterns, to make connections between seemingly unrelated phenomena, and to generate solutions. Creativity involves two processes: thinking, then producing.



The modern language teachers have new challenges and duties given by the new era. The tradition of English teaching has been drastically changed with the remarkable development of newer technologies such as multimedia technology. Technology provides so many options as it makes teaching interesting and productive because it has capability to attract the language learners. Multimedia is a modern and useful tool which makes the teaching and learning time in classroom more dynamic. In an era of views, likes, shares, comments, retweets and all the rest, social interactions offer a clear way of giving students a sense of their content’s worth in the eyes of their peers. Today’s students have spent their entire lives surrounded by information in a variety of mediums. Technology shows a positive impact on learning when students are required to engage in inquiry, analyze content, construct knowledge, and effectively communicate their learning. In order for students to be prepared for a more complex life and work environment a 21st century classroom must promote creativity, critical thinking, communication, and collaboration. Technology tools that help student’s creativity provide an opportunity to build higher-order thinking skills. Multimedia approach helps to build 21st century classroom by progressing life and career skills.

- ✓ Employ creativity and innovation as they develop, implement, and communicate ideas and demonstrate originality and inventiveness;
- ✓ Critical thinking and problem solving as they frame, analyze, and synthesize information to solve problems and answer questions;
- ✓ Communication and collaboration as they articulate thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively and share responsibility for collaborative work.

The field of language education is ever changing. The technology in this era has been grown up not only from the quality but also the efficiency. The utilization of ICT in education has recently started to appeal the potential and significant progress in language learning. The need of technological innovation has brought the communication revolution and rapid development of technological application in teaching and learning. There is no technology without creativity. The more we learn about the abilities of technology, the more creative we become. Technology gives room to bloom. Foreign language teaching and learning at the tertiary level is based on methodological approaches which include a variety of information technology elements.

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This rapid rising and development of information technology has offered a better pattern to explore the new teaching model. As a result technology plays a very important role in English teaching. Using multimedia to create a context to teach English has its unique advantages.

Blogs:

Blogs are a great way for the improvement of creative thinking and writing in students. It provides autonomy to students to post whatever they want and comment upon or share each other's material. Blogging makes students feel responsible for their own learning and they are encouraged to incorporate creativity in their learning through themselves

Cartoon and Comic Strips:

Students love cartoons and comics. They automatically get engaged more than ever .it is a free and friendly tools to empower them to create their own comic strips or cartoon animations. This will help them to develop creative powers and delve into the world of creativity without any hindrance.

Mind-Mapping and Brainstorming tools:

a great collaborative way in today's teaching practices, which encourages students to think out of the box and creatively. Brainstorming when done with technology becomes much more easy and engaging. Students can conveniently do it on their own. These tools boost their creativity and provide them with different ways to interconnect their thoughts.

Infographics:

Infographics are loved by all, since they represent data in an interesting and catchy way. It makes the understanding of information easier and quicker. They can employ their creativity and imagination to create an infographic about a topic, concept or anything they want. They can share these infographics and also embed them into their classroom blog.

Video and Audio Tools:

These tools are easy for both students and teachers to teach in teaching and learning Students can create their own videos and share them with their class, which can be a great opportunity for them to develop their creative skills. They can even simulate a discussion with others or anything else they want. They can record it and share it with their mates on the class blog or school website.

Digital Storytelling Tools:

Telling a story is a powerful way to communicate with others. It improves the creative skills of students and helps them explore the meaning of their own work and experience.

Meme:

In today's world we use memes it helps in learning a language constantly. A meme can be a simple idea, or a complex idea. The most important point about a meme is that it propagates. In other words, a meme is an idea, value or pattern of behaviour that is especially attractive and is passed from one person to the next - or even one society to the next.

Games:

Games have constantly proven to be one of the best ways of promoting co-operation and creativity. Educational games keep students engaged with their study, ignite the interactive and imaginative element in their thinking and mould it towards creativity. Now, games have become a must to be included element in education.

"You can't use up creativity

The more you use

the more you have" - Maya Angelou

All of the above tools of technology are creativity triggers that help students develop creative thinking and other essential skills. They are easily and freely available and teachers should readily adopt them into their academic curricula, so that their students never lag behind when it comes to creativity, since it is vital for their all-round development.

Sharing:

It Drives students' motivation to create high-quality work gives value to others. True exploration involves cooperation too as learners discuss and share ideas with one another. Technology can allow educators and students to easily create Study Groups which provide a space for challenging one another's ideas intelligently and constructively.

Conclusion:

Teachers play a major role in inspiring creativity through technology. The main purpose of using multimedia technology in language teaching is to promote students' motivation and learning interest in the English language. The process of English learning should be more student-centered and less time-consuming. The language teachers should maintain the students' communicative competence through multimedia technology. In conclusion, the utilization of multimedia technology can fully improve the students' thinking and practical language skills.

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