THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY FOR IMPROVING LISTENING SKILLS

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Abstract: The use of technology in language learning has completely changed the way that education is conducted in the modern day, especially when it comes to improving students' listening abilities. In order to better understand how important technology is to improving listening skills, this article examines a variety of digital tools and platforms as well as how they affect language learners. Teachers may provide students with immersive, individualized, and interactive listening experiences that greatly increase their comprehension and retention by utilizing cutting-edge technologies.

Key words: teaching methods, innovative education, cognitive activities, interactive technologies, audiovisual learning, listening comprehension, interactive films, webinars.

The rapidly changing socio-economic environment has led to swift progress in various sectors, including education. This evolution has brought about a shift from traditional to innovative educational models. As higher education adjusts to these developments, there is an increasing focus on training highly qualified professionals. This highlights the importance of developing foreign language communicative competence as a key objective in language education. Linguistic competence involves several elements, which need to be broken down into distinct components for effective teaching. Educators must customize their methods to match the actual needs, motivations, and abilities of their students. Integrating new information technologies into foreign language instruction not only brings in new tools but also introduces innovative teaching methods and a new perspective on the learning process. Teachers play a crucial role in promoting practical language mastery by choosing teaching techniques that foster student engagement and creativity. They also need to stimulate students' cognitive

activities throughout the learning process to enhance foreign language proficiency. Modern technologies address several educational challenges by increasing student engagement and promoting independent learning. The rising use of innovative technologies is also fueled by the growing amount of information that students must absorb during their studies. One significant advantage of incorporating innovative technologies into foreign language education is the transition from traditional verbal information delivery to more interactive audiovisual methods. This shift supports more dynamic and effective learning experiences for students.

There are many different technological resources available to support the improvement of listening skills:

Apps for learning languages: Programs like Duolingo, Babbel, and Rosetta Stone provide listening exercises at all skill levels and offer instant feedback along with customized learning routes.

Podcasts and audiobooks: Resources such as Audible and other podcast services provide a wide range of information suited to a range of interests and skill levels, giving students practice listening in authentic situations.

Interactive films and webinars: High-quality videos with a variety of accents and speech patterns are available on websites like TED Talks and educational platforms like Coursera and Khan Academy. These resources help learners become more engaged and enhance their listening comprehension.

Speech Recognition Software: Through interactive activities, tools such as Google's speech-to-text and other AI-driven applications analyze spoken language to help students get better at listening.

Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR): These immersive technologies build lifelike settings in which students can practice listening in authentic scenarios, improving their comprehension of spoken language in a variety of settings.

Using these tech tools has a significant influence on enhancing listening abilities:

Enhanced Engagement: Learners are kept interested and involved by interactive and multimedia information, which enhances the effectiveness and enjoyment of listening exercises. An essential component of good listening practice is keeping learners' interest and attention, which is accomplished through the use of graphics, animations, and interactive features.

Personalized Learning: By adapting listening exercises to each learner's unique skill level, adaptive learning technologies make sure that students are given the right challenges and assistance. With this customisation, students can concentrate on their areas of most need for improvement and move forward at their own speed.

Instant Feedback: With the use of digital tools, students can improve their listening accuracy in real time and fix errors in real time. For students to adopt appropriate listening techniques and receive reinforcement for their learning, this instant feedback loop is crucial.

Exposure to Diverse Accents and Dialects: Learning through technology exposes students to a large number of accents and dialects, preparing them for conversation with native speakers throughout the globe in real life. This exposure improves learners' comprehension of spoken language in a variety of circumstances and aids in the development of a more thorough understanding of the language.

Flexibility and accessibility: Learners may practice listening skills anytime, anywhere, thanks to mobile apps and online platforms, which suit a variety of learning styles and schedules. This adaptability is especially helpful for students who are pressed for time and must fit language. This flexibility is particularly beneficial for busy learners who need to fit language practice into their daily routines.

Even though the research to date shows that technology improves listening abilities, more research is necessary to determine the long-term consequences of these devices.

Subsequent investigations must to concentrate on: Research on the long-term effects of technology on listening abilities is known as a longitudinal

study.Comparative studies examine how well various technology platforms (such as virtual reality versus language learning applications) improve listening skills.

Learner Diversity: Examining the effects of technology instruments on listening abilities in relation to age groups, skill levels, and cultural backgrounds.Evaluating the success of professional development initiatives in providing teachers with the necessary tools to incorporate technology into their lesson plans.

In our present era, an increasing number of children are exposed to various gadgets from a young age, leading them to become familiar with and adept at using technology. As a result, there is a growing readiness for the modernization of education. Technology has become ingrained in people's daily lives and is considered essential for navigating the fast-paced modern world.

One aspect of this is multimedia, which presents information in a visually appealing manner using a combination of video, graphics, text, audio, and animation. Examples include email, video conferencing, Yahoo, and various other platforms. Multimedia can be either hardware or software-based. It has the capability to inspire students to pursue further learning and develop higher-order thinking skills (HOTS). Additionally, it facilitates easy access and rapid delivery of tutorials, tests, and quizzes to users. With multimedia, students can access information or study independently at home using any technological device, without the need for a personal instructor or teacher. Utilizing multimedia engages students, sparks interest in the subject matter, and demonstrates the relevance of various concepts. Furthermore, multimedia content diversifies and enriches the learning process, leading to a deeper understanding of the material. Multimedia technology also creates more opportunities for students to interact with the content. According to the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), as technological advancements continue to drive globalization and digital transformation, teachers can play a crucial role in equipping students with the skills necessary for future success.

As noted in a journal article titled "The Implementation of Interactive Multimedia Learning Materials in Teaching Listening Skills" by Ampa (2015), multimedia is a useful medium for communication. It makes information transfer and storage easier by providing entertaining features like animation, music, video, and other

digital components. Thus, people are more inclined to pay attention to spoken content when it is presented in a multimedia format. Moreover, when products are presented using it, audiences become more engaged. A computer-managed fusion of text, animation, graphics, music, video, pictures, and other media forms is another way to define multimedia.

In conclusion, 73/125 Words

A key component of the contemporary method for honing listening abilities is technology. Teachers may give students more effective, individualized, and engaging listening experiences by utilizing digital tools. As technology is more incorporated into language instruction, listening comprehension will improve even more, better equipping students for effective communication in an increasingly interconnected world. The possibility of better listening abilities and general language competency grows as more educators and students adopt these innovations.

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