

HOW STUDENTS CAN USE MOBILE TO LEARN ENGLISH

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Анотація:

Мобільні телефони – це найбільш потужний, популярний і швидкий засіб зв'язку. Вчителі англійської мови можуть використати цю перевагу зі всіх решта особливостей і здатностей мобільного телефону і студенти можуть вивчати мову більш легше і ефективніше. Роль вчителя дуже велика при впровадженні технології такої як пристосування мобільних телефонів до процесу викладання англійської мови. В цій статті буде обговорено як легко доступний інструмент може бути використаний для вивчення англійської мови.

Ключові слова: мобільний телефон, вивчення, зв'язок, програмне забезпечення, викладання, записувач відео, перевага, недоліки.

Abstract:

Mobile Phones are the most powerful popular and fast medium of communication. Teachers of English can take advantage of all the great features and capabilities of mobile phones and students can learn English in an easier and more effective way. In this article I would like to discuss how this easily available tool can be used for learning English. Role of teachers is very imperative in integrating and implementing technology such as adopting mobile phones in English teaching.

Keywords : mobile phone, learning, communication, software, teaching, video recorder, advantage, disadvantage.

Introduction

Teaching of English as a second language demands a high level of innovation and integration of various teaching techniques. In the context of Ukraine the teaching of English is quite challenging it offers a teacher many opportunities to apply modern means of communications in order to cater to growing requirements of learners and improve their language skills. Mobile phones are gaining immense popularity as there devices are small, smart, portable and comfortable to utilize. It is a common instrument that can be seen in every hand especially in the hands of students. To be frank students have the latest mobile phones. As they are inquisitive in nature, they become experts in operating various functions of the mobile. It has been considered as a very useful and convenient tool for teaching and learning.

Main part

Mostly mobile phones are equipped with functionalities including sms, mms, facebook, Twitter, internet access, mp3/mp4 player, digital camera video recorder and many are flashenabled and or java-enabled and can run multimedia contents including audio and video. Some mobiles have special inbuilt learning software such as e-dictionary, flash card, software, quiz software and others.

SMS(Short Message Service): Short Message Service text messages can be used to send out vocabulary items at spaced intervals, thus increasing student retention In circular writing, students can frame a story together by contributing one text message at a time. Each student writes a sentence or two and then sends this on to the next student, who adds another message, and so on until the story is finish. The

teacher has to keep a record of the story as emerges. In addition to all these user friendly services, mobile phones can be the best source for promoting and developing a better understanding.

Video recorder:

Video recorder is another important tool available on the mobile phone. Oral presentations, role play and other activities involving the students can be recorded by using the video recorder.

Students will be happy and enthralled to see them on the screen. It not only enhances the performance of the of the students but also motivates the other students to come forward and take participation in the activities.

Camera: Different trips can be captured by using camera. These trips can be used for group discussion. The students speak about their personal experience by using these images. This will definitely develop their English language skill.

Twitter: Twitter can be also used for discussion. For example "What did u do at the weekend?" Ask students to tweet photos of their weekend. Provide a hashtag for all the tweets. They could include photos of interesting people they met, a funny story or a meal they enjoyed. This will provide students plenty of materials for discussion. Describing people. Ask students to describe someone they are, following on Twitter, in English. What were the reasons for following them? Do they read their tweets daily? Do they follow them on other social media channels? Is there anything in particular they admire about them.

Mobile dictionary: Mobile dictionary is a mobile application that translates words from one device language to another. The applications allows having English and two additional languages on the durce at the same time. While reading, students may come across many new words. By using the mobile dictionary the can find out the meaning of the worlds.

Mobile learning has been considered as a worthy tool in distance education.

Mobile phone is a more popular technology because a majority of individuals own mobile phones which are equipped with services such as Bluetooth, Wireless Internet (Wi-Fi), General Packet Radio System (GPRS), Global System for Mobile (GSM), and multimedia message (MMS).

Mobile learning can improve learning by putting students in a real context and transform the process of learning more appealing, motivating, interesting. Students may maximize their acquisition of skills, competencies, may optimize their time of studying and they can also take online tests.

Advantages and Disadvantages of Mobile learning

Advantages

- 1.It increases student motivation through the use of familiar technology.
- 2.It helps students become more competent in English.
- 3.It helps in assessing the language skill of the learners.
- 4.It gives the flexibility of learning and hands free operation.
- 5.It helps to choose activities which are real and meaningful.
- 6.It promotes self learning, learning by fun and learner centred approach.
- 7.It enhances interaction between real and virtual environments.

Disadvantages

- 1.All the students will not have mobile phone with them..
- 2.Activities such as sending messages, internet, making calls will cost money.
- 3.Use of noisy phones in the classroom may harm the classroom atmosphere.
- 4.Difficulty in reviewing the recorded audio files.
- 5.Limited memory size.
- 6.Small keyboards.
- 7.Limited battery life.
- 8.Possibility for mobile devices to be misplaced or stolen or corrupted.

Conclusion

Every technology has its own good and bad effects. We need to recognize them and tap them for good ends. The integration of mobile learning with English teaching and learning may offer last innovations in the coming days. Mobile companies should seek the suggestions from language experts to update their cell phones and programmers, technologists and develop suitable software for teachers and students

to use. Moderate use of mobile phones may bring interest among the learners and transform the learning process as it helps learners to raise their self-confidence.

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