

USING SMARTPHONE AND THE INTERNET IN LEARNING FOREIGN LANGUAGE

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Анотація: У цій статті досліджуються можливості використання смартфона та інтернету у вивченні іноземних мов.

Ключові слова: веб-сайт, додаток, соціальні мережі, іноземна мова, спілкування.

Abstract: *This paper investigates the role of smartphone and the Internet in learning foreign languages.*

Keywords: website, application, social networks, foreign language, communication.

Learning foreign languages become easier nowadays. It isn't necessary to spend a lot of money on tutors and teachers, because you can learn yourself. The development of technologies gave us great opportunities, because we can use computer, smartphone, Internet.

Websites

There are a lot of websites, which can help you to learn foreign language, for example, Duolingo and Babadum.

Duolingo is a free language-learning platform that includes a language-learning website and app. As of January 2019, the language-learning website and app offer 85 different language courses in 24 languages. The app has about 300 million registered users across the world [1]. The company's mission is to make education free, fun and accessible to all. In addition to its core platform, the company created the Duolingo English Test (DET), an affordable and convenient language certification option that is accepted by over 200 universities [2]. Duolingo is designed to feel like a game and scientifically proven to be effective. The trainings are conducted in a playful way, because it is more fun and effective, so you need just complete short tasks and answer questions to consolidate knowledge every day [3]. People having Ukrainian mother tongue can study English, people having Russian mother tongue can study English, German, French, Spanish, Swedish. According to an independent study conducted by the City University of New York and the University of North Carolina, an average of 34 hours per Duolingo is equal to a whole semester of language studies at the university [4].

Babadum is a website that is still developing. It is suitable for people, who already know the languages and trying to improve their skills. This site helps you to quickly improve your vocabulary from different languages. There are about 21 languages in total. The study takes place in the format of choosing the right word to one of the 4 pictures. That allows you to study spelling rather quickly, and the phonetically correct pronunciation of words, since each answer is spoken.

Applications

Andy – English Speaking Bot helps to study English by actually using it in a conversation. What you can do with this app:

1. Practice conversation in English:

- practice casual day-to-day interactions: greeting, chatting about your day, weather, etc;
- practice asking and answering questions, telling about yourself, your family, your likes and dislikes;
- discuss various topics like travel, movies, hobbies, art, jokes, curious facts and many more.

2. Learn grammar:

- take daily lessons: Andy will give you a short grammar explanation and test your understanding;
- if you make a mistake Andy doesn't just tell you the right answer but tries to explain why it is correct;

- Andy also corrects some mistakes in your messages when you're just chatting.

3. Learn new words:

- you can ask definitions of words you don't understand;
- Andy sends you definition and examples to help you understand and remember the word;
- Andy reminds you to review the words you've learned before you forget them.

4. And other:

- Andy is always available, you can chat for 5 minutes or 5 hours;
- work on your listening and pronunciation skills with audios of the messages ;
- small and funny games that help you to learn new words and grammar;
- feels like you're talking to a real person, Andy is friendly, curious and amusing;
- talking to a bot is easier than talking to a person, bot doesn't judge you and you don't feel shy [5].

Mondly is a language learning app developed for Android and iOS devices wherein you can learn 33 languages for free. The app includes a free dictionary, lessons, exercises, chatbot, speech recognition, and more. The language course of study includes:

- clear audio recordings dictated by professional voice actors, so you'll learn correct pronunciation based on conversations between native speakers;
- the latest speech recognition system. Mondly can listen to how you pronounce words and phrases, so you'll get feedback;
- useful phrases for real life situations. You'll be taught vocabulary by offering you the basic words and phrases;
- learn spoken language [6].

Also there are a lot of others applications: dictionaries, translators (Google Translate), different bots for learning words (Lenny Bot in Telegram), etc.

Social networks

Different social networks became a part of our life. Almost every one of us has at least one account in any social network. But only some of them use it for learning foreign language. For example, you can use Twitter. This network allows sharing your thoughts (tweets) in short form. This system is very convenient, because other people read your tweet and can answer quickly. So you can make friends with native speakers and chat with them. The same can be said about other network (Instagram, Telegram, Facebook, etc.).

As a result, we can see that people have a lot of opportunities to learn foreign languages. The development of technologies helps us and we should use it.

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