ROLE OF ICT IN DEVELOPING SPEAKING SKILL IN EFL CLASSROOM

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Abstract

In the present scenario teaching and learning of English is a difficult task. To change this critical situation, well- advanced teaching aids are required to be present in the class. The recent development of Information and communication Technologies (ICT) led to great technological revolutionary in all fields and also in teaching and learning. This study intended to explore innovative and technological methods of teaching language. This research aims at highlighting ICTs in improving learners' oral proficiency. This paper also aims to give hands in enhancing teaching and learning English effectively, both on average and under averaged students with an efficient technique by using available Technologies. The using of ICT in the conventional classroom ought to be realistic and without apprehension so that both language learning and teaching become effective.

Keywords: ICT, Technology, speaking skill, Oral proficiency.

Introduction

Technology plays a vital role in the educational learning process. The new form of Information and Communication Technologies are used in teaching effectively in the second language classroom to help learners enhance their speaking skills. Speaking is an important skill to develop their oral proficiency. Speaking means oral production of language activity. Information and Communication Technology used to transmit, store, create, share or exchange information. Many researchers accept that Information and Communication Technology tools play a vital role give a great challenge that can change oral classes and motivate EFL learners to speak. Some of the important ICT tools and applications used in the field of English Language Teaching are Computers, Projector, Television, and Internet. In 1980s, Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) facilitated language teachers and learners to enhance their level. ICT has become more wide spread. Technology Enhanced Language Learning (TELL) started in 1990s. Technology becomes an integral part of the learning experience and a significant issue for teachers, from the starting of preparing learning experience by the method of teaching and learning process. (Eady& L. Lockyer, 2013). Furthermore, speaking is said to be an important skill in learning a second or a foreign language. According to Brown and Yule (1983) speaking is skill that the students will be estimated mostly in their real- life situation, it is an important part of everyday interactions.

Types of ICT used in EFL Classes:

The technological development challenges teachers to integrate technology in the classes in order to provide their teaching methods and stop the traditional method. Computers are one of the most useful resources in a classroom, because they

motivate students to engage. Internet is a vast area network that connects systems across the world. TV shows can change the regular classroom activities, they provide students the original conversation, which helps in developing their listening skills by giving various accents for them to hear. The projectors help the teachers to take less time in writing on the board and going line by line in the text. The slide from the power point helps the students to take notes when the teacher is teaching. Smart board is otherwise called as interactive whiteboard and is connected with projector and computer used for teaching in the classroom.

Speaking Skill:

Success is calculated with the efficient to carry out a conversation in the target language Lawti (2004) .The aim of teaching speaking is to develop the communicative efficiency. Technology has facilitated great chance for the students to use the language. Speaking means developing and interchanging meaning through the verbal and non- verbal symbols in different types of contexts (Chaney &T.L.Burk 1998). Speaking is the difficult part of second language learning and teaching. It is an art of communication and productive skill. In the importance of speaking skill Communication is not easy for people without utilizing language. So the significance of speaking skill is enormous for EFL learners. Speaking can support learners to improve their vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation.

Teachers Role in using ICT AND Application of ICTs in EFL Learning

At present teachers are concerned to be providers, helping their learners to think about the quality and validity of new sources and knowledge. Technology does not take the role of the teachers and never exclude it as many people thought, because the teacher is the tutor, instructor and the guide who controls these materials. ICT helps teachers to develop the knowledge and skills to use the new digital tools and technologies. ICTs are seen as an important tool to do something and help to move from traditional teacher- centric to student – centric methods. Undoubtedly, ICT in foreign language learning is considered to be able develop students respond positively in a language classroom. The integration of ICT considers some effective techniques that help teachers to provide students with various chances to improve speaking skill. Wongsuwana (2006) accepted that speaking skill can be practiced and it does not rely on the talent of the individual. According to Harmer (1998) there are physical activities in the classroom for motivating the students, they increase their self-confidence by engaging themselves in the interaction, answering the questions, sharing ideas and preparing Presentations. The teachers utilize activities like digital story telling. It is used as a multimedia tool in language learning to improve students English- speaking skill by using technology to tell the story in their own words and voice. EFL instructors can make power point presentations that can be used to practice or test language usage and can be saved and used again.

Activities to Teach/Learn Speaking Sing ICT

The application of computers in the teaching of EFL helped language teachers to create the lesson practical and authentic. By combining sound, image, voice in one device, learners are made to learn more than one thing at a time. Experienced teachers can teach the four skills simultaneously, as the students are engaged in

listening, acquiring speaking skill as they observe speakers as well as writing and reading with the help of sounds and images. After the power point presentation the students can be taught the art of public speaking. By the internet, students can find a lot of learning materials like audio, video, radio, TV shows games voice recordings, quizzes and so on, like this students get interested in target language and help them to develop their speaking skill.

Conclusion

Practice of Information and Technologies (ICTs) has become an important role in language educational setting, mainly in EFL, for the purpose of teaching and learning process. When talking generally about learning English as a foreign language, the great aim of many learners is to be competent speakers of the target language. The EFL educational learning structure is structured on many factors that play a vital role in developing a successful FL student. Thus the researcher of the present study believes that the use and integration of ICTs in the oral expression classroom can decrease the struggles that prevent EFL learners from the proficiency in the speaking skill. CT provides their learning; it enhances their performances in the classroom and improves their listening and speaking skill and even increases their interest. Learning and teaching EFL needs ICT integration to help students develop their skills because it makes them positively so far. This study throws light on the importance of speaking proficiency for learners to use ICT in EFL class and for teachers to motivate their students. To conclude that EFL teachers should teach by not only traditional ways but also through ICTs in the classroom. Then, it will access to increase the language activities and develop the student's participation which leads to the development of their speaking proficiency.

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