

**INTERNET: PROMISING ENDURING LEARNING IN ELT CLASSROOM****Dr. FARHA HASHMI**

Ph.D (Mewar University, Chittorgarh,Rajasthan)

Assistant Professor

Department o English

Mewar University, Chittorgarh, Rajasthan, India.

**Dr. FARHA HASHMI****ABSTRACT**

The revolution of technology has brought several benefits to ELT classroom. The conventional ways unable to fulfill the learning demands of the students are replaced with the modern tool of learning. Internet, one of such modern tools is widely used in ELT classroom for its valuable resources it offers to the language teachers as well as the students in form of content material, videos, free spoken skill programmes, rich variety of reading material, stories, English songs along with transcription, English learning podcasts, lot of grammar exercises and so on. Indeed, it helps the learners to get connect with language learning activities directly and gives them maximum opportunity to learn English language in natural environment. The three prominent features of internet namely non-linear, multimodality and wider communication promote all four language skills amongst the learners. This article, in particular, discusses this relevance of internet in context to ELT classroom and offers the various websites to practice English. It gives a call to the teachers as well as the students to use internet in classroom as normally their text books and pen and paper. At last, it also gives certain suggestions for the adequate handling and best use of internet in classroom by the teachers as per the need of the learners.

Keywords: Internet, English language Acquisition, Communication skills

With the emerging world of technology each and every thing is becoming more precise and taking a quick shape. Mostly fields are revolutionized and modernized with the use of technology. In this case, technology is no far behind in ELT classroom as it has also been touched and benefitted by its application. Now a days, the ELT classroom has also been equipped with advance tools of learning to ensure feasible and flexible learning amongst the learners. Though the ELT classes were earlier using audio and visual device but the more advanced form was missing. Today the revolution of internet brought massive changes in ELT classroom as it offers full cooperation to teachers as well students to learn English faster and automatically. Now teacher centered approach has been replaced with student centered approach and the learners are exposed to several good and authentic websites to practice English at the fastest pace. This paper, in particular, deals with this aspect of technology in context of ELT classroom and provides several information related to intelligent exploitation of internet by teachers and students. Today, the learners are very well known to technology and they want to learn in technology based environment too. The learners of English language are mostly drawn to an atmosphere that makes their learning interesting. Therefore, the classroom should also be digitalized and teaching should be done with the help of technology. It is high time to incorporate technology and offer training to teachers to effectively use it in classroom. The proper training of its implementation will further boost the confidence of teachers and the teaching will be done in its required time. The purpose of teaching as well as learning will be realized only when the things are accomplished in systematic and organized manner. It has been analysed that the internet facility gives such opportunity to the language learners and they get

**Vol.3.Issue.3. 2015**

maximum satisfaction while working with internet. The paper, directly deals with this issue how to make English language teaching easy and reliable with the help of internet.

Internet facility gives conducive environment to the learners to find a large amount of material of reading, speaking, listening and writing. Some websites offer readers an opportunity to publish and to read book reviews, comments and discussions about stories, exchange opinion and even write their own stories online. This further promotes argument, critical literacy, and thinking and language skills. There are three main features of the internet namely non-linear, multimodality and wider communication. Multimodality means participation of the work in the world and comprehension of the large quantities of available information. Nonlinear means the skills and strategies used for searching for relevant information and material. The third is the vast potential of communication with others. Students' autonomous language learning self-assessment can become widely available through the web rather than being tied to particular classes.

Internet can be used for innumerable reasons such as for language learning and for improving skills, finding materials, learning about new topics of respective subjects, creating virtual environment in the classroom, engaging learners in creative activities which enhance their writing, speaking, reading and listening skills, keeping learners in touch with learners from different countries, meeting online with the native speakers, sending messages via e-mail, listening to good English through podcasts, creating class blogs and posting comments in it at regular intervals. Moreover, internet allows students around the world to interact with one another cheaply, quickly, and reliably, and opens up the classroom to the real world in a way which has never before been possible. Access to the internet in teaching English language will, in fact, lead to a change in the way, language is learnt. Students can avail the facility of audio and video communication in different ways that have never before been practical. Thousand of websites for ELT are available along with the free English software or good resources at the cheapest price. The language classroom with internet is perfectly supported by Authenticity, Literacy, Vitality and Empowerment.

Language learning is most successful when it takes place in an authentic, meaningful context. The Internet gives students access to vast amounts of authentic material on any topic. It also allows opportunities for authentic communication and publishing, which is rewarding, motivating and rather easy to arrange. The English language learners should not be taught in a vacuum, but rather should prepare students for the content and tasks to which they will be exposed. Students are allowed to utilize all appropriate Internet resources, such as online dictionaries, encyclopedias and terminology reference books and other helpful materials.

The ability to read, write, communicate, research and publish on the Internet represents important new forms of literacy that are needed at present time. By combining English teaching with technology, students can master the skills they need for academic success and professional achievements. The Internet provides students with the opportunity to interact with native and non-native speakers all over the globe.

It is a well known fact that students learning English get bogged down in memorizing grammatical rules or decontextualised vocabulary. The Internet can inject an element of vitality into teaching and motivate students as they communicate in a medium that is flexible, multimodal, constantly changing and connected to real life needs.

It very true that mastery of the Internet helps to augment the personal power of teachers and students. It allows them to experience the attractiveness of life-long learning. Students learn efficient searching techniques that are required when they need to find something to satisfy their personal interest or professional demands. It also teaches them collaboration with others and develops their team working skills.

Through the Internet students can be involved in projects to investigate different sites, compile data and write reports concerning existing and potential studies and explorations. The report then can be introduced orally in a class presentation that incorporates power point. These activities improve their communication skills and proficiency in English.

**Vol.3.Issue.3. 2015**

Pronunciation which is worked in particular has benefited from multimedia. Many of the English pronunciation programmes have video clips and animations of the mouth making specific sounds. Some vocabulary programmes use speech recognition technology to help students see how close they have come to the target pronunciation. Interactive video research gave some of the first results about multimedia effectiveness in language teaching.

Here is list of websites through which the language enthusiasts can improve their competence in English and teachers can directly access English lesson plan from the web.

1. <http://www.1-language.com>
The website fosters global communication through a world auxiliary language. This is a free, comprehensive ESL (English as a Second Language) Site including forums, real-time chat, jobs, grammar, help lines, multi-lingual content and much more.
2. <http://www.antimoon.com>
The website, which uses simple English, provides advice from people who learned English successfully.
3. <http://www.thecommunicationstation.com>
By browsing this website, one can read a chain story and then add one's own paragraph! One can create one's own funny caption for a strange picture!
4. <http://www.soundsofenglish.org>
The site offers pronunciation instruction. It explains how each sound is made and offers audio and video examples with exercises.
5. <http://www.eslcafe.com>
Dave's ESL Cafe is one of the best ESL sites on the web!
6. <http://www.englishtown.com>
Here one can take a fun trip to Englishtown!
7. <http://www.towerofenglish.com>
This is an excellent site that provides resources for both academic and non-academic teachers.
8. <http://www.englishforum.com>
A comprehensive web portal with a wealth of resources for students and teachers of English (ESL/EFL). There are many Interactive Exercises, Message Boards, ELT Bookshop, Good School Guide, Web Directory, World News, Links, Cool Tools and more...
9. <http://www.edu.ge.ch/cptic/prospective/projets/anglais>
This is a site with pages for students and for teachers including material to download. There is also a growing exercise page.
10. <http://www.go.english4today.com>
English4Today has collected into one easy-to-use website a catalogue of the best English language learning and information websites on the Internet.
11. <http://www.esllessons.com>
A great collection of ready-to-use lessons in 12 different categories. For use in the classroom or computer lab.
12. <http://www.esl-lounge.com>
Here are free ESL Lesson Materials for TEFL and TESOL teachers. Grammar, reading comprehension, worksheets, song lyrics, board games, pronunciation, flashcards, surveys, role plays and more.
13. <http://www.eslmonkeys.com>
Free English-as-a-second-language teaching materials and learning resources for teachers, students and schools. One can search for ESL jobs, lesson plans, English schools/programmes, books, school resources and more.



Vol.3.Issue.3. 2015

14. <http://www.eslWonderland.com>
Much useful information and many activities are here for every language learner!
15. <http://www.esldirectory.com>
This is a very useful resource for ESL students around the world to research and locate English as a Second Language programmes from all around the world.
16. <http://www.headsupenglish.com>
Here are many ready-to-use EFL lessons based on world events.
17. <http://www.iteslj.org>
This website provides many articles, research papers, lesson plans, classroom handouts, teaching ideas and links!
18. <http://www.eslpartyland.com>
Teachers can find enough number of ideas for lessons and over 10 discussion groups at this excellent new site.
19. <http://www.languageassociates.com>
This is a competent ESL training company. Courses teach professionals to improve their English writing, listening and speaking skills.
20. <http://www.nelliemuller.wordpress.com>
Here are the collaborative writing project ideas on how to integrate technology into the classroom, with resources for teachers and students.
21. <http://www.onestopenglish.com>
This website offers teachers many free resources and ideas on lessons.
22. <http://www.home.gwu.edu/~meloni/gwvcusas>
Includes reading ,vocabulary grammar, listening, conversation, discussion.
23. <http://www.lang.uiuc.edu/r-115/esl>
Online activities are broken down into listening and speaking, reading with understanding, and grammar and writing.
24. <http://www.englishpractice.com>
It offers online courses for improving grammar, vocabulary, and reading.
25. <http://www.englishclub.net/study/pronunciation/sentence-stress.htm>
Helps how sentence stress helps one understand spoken English.
26. <http://www.esl.to/esl.html>
A new, enjoyable and effective way to learn and improve your English.
27. <http://www.vocabulary.co.il>
Builds one's vocabulary with flash cards, dynamic test and games.
28. <http://www.world-english.org>
It contains English language activities, exercises and tests.
29. <http://www.learnenglishfeelgood.com>
Free English grammar and vocabulary exercises for beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels.
30. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools>
BBC WS – Learning English
31. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish>
Bell English
32. <http://www.bellenglish.com/>
British Council
33. <http://www.learnenglish.org.uk>
Comenius English Language Center



Vol.3.Issue.3. 2015

34. <http://www.comenius.com/>
Dave's ESL Café
35. <http://www.eslcafe.com/>
Discovery School
36. <http://www.discoveryschool.com/>
Edufind On-Line English Grammar
37. <http://www.edufind.com/english/grammar/index.cfm>
English Conversations
38. <http://englishconversations.org>
English Is It
39. <http://www.english.is.it/>
English Live
40. <http://www.englishlive.co.uk/>
English Page
41. <http://www.englishpage.com>
Exercises for English
42. <http://a4esl.org/>
Guide to Grammar and Writing
43. <http://ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/>
It's On-Line
44. <http://www.its-online.com/>
Many things (fun exercises)
45. <http://www.manythings.org/>
Mary Glasgow/Scholastic ELT
46. <http://www.link2english.com>
NZZ Online
47. <http://www.nzz.ch/english>
OUP ELT
48. <http://www.oup.com/elt>
Partyland
49. <http://www.eslpartyland.com/>
Peak English by Distance Learning
50. <http://www.peakenglish.com>
Penguin Graded Readers
51. <http://www.penguinreaders.com/>
Planet English
52. <http://www.planetenglish.com>
Planet Learning
53. <http://www.the-planet.co.uk/>
Search: How English words are used
54. <http://sara.natcorp.ox.ac.uk/lookup.html>
Spotlight online magazine
55. <http://www.spotlight-online.de/>
Turner Learning
56. <http://www.turnerlearning.com/>
Words for giving free rice

**Vol.3.Issue.3. 2015**

57. <http://www.quotesearch.com>
Best Quotations on various topics
58. <http://www.daiygrammar.com>
Daily grammar –consisting of 40 lessons and 88 quizzes- is a convenient way to learn English grammar.
59. <http://www.dailywritingtip.com>
This site is a treasure trove of over 1,500 articles that help to improve writing.
60. <http://www.visuwords.com>

It is a flash – based graphical dictionary that lets one look-up words to find their meaning and associations with other words and concept.

The detailed English lesson plans can also be accessed from the internet. Teachers can use such lessons in the classroom to engage learners in different activities while teaching English. Hence, making English language teaching interesting and easy for the learners.

Although the internet is a vivid and helpful medium in making the learning of language more efficient, a successful result depends on how well a teacher implements and integrates it into classroom instruction. It is only the teacher's clear understanding of objectives, his planning of coherent activities, his searching for relevant resources, his creativity and his perseverance that make the Internet-based classes stimulating and valuable. Internet is nothing but looking for available Web resources and creating supporting materials to ensure that lessons include Ideal synchronization of language and cognitive skills of the learners and content fit for them.

Here are some suggestions for the adequate handling of best use of internet in classroom.

- a. The facilitator should prepare the lessons before time.
- b. The best content should be selected as per the need of the learners.
- c. The learners should be given adequate time to search and practice online grammar exercises.
- d. The online projects should be allotted to individual and group.
- e. Teachers should act as facilitator and students should be supervised them timely.
- f. The facilitator should be very well known to the programme installed and have technical knowledge of software need to update to avoid any technical glitch and run programme smoothly.

REFERENCE

- Lee, Johnny. (2001). The internet for English language teaching. The Reading Matrix, Vol. 1, No. 2, September, 2001.
- Erben, Tony, et al. *"English Language Learners through Technology"*. Routledge : New York, 2009.
- Fazili, Mubeena. *Communicative Method in ELT: An Indian Perspective*. Atlantic: New Delhi
- Teeler, Deelee and PetaGray. *How to use the Internet in ELT*. Pearson Education Limited: England, 2006.