



THE ROLE OF MODERN TECHNOLOGIES IN IMPROVING SPEAKING SKILLS

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ABSTRACT

In the contemporary era of rapid technological advancement, modern digital tools have become an integral component of foreign language education. This article examines the significant role that modern technologies play in the development of speaking skills, which represent one of the most essential aspects of communicative competence in foreign language learning. In particular, the study explores the contribution of mobile applications, artificial intelligence-based learning platforms, and various digital educational technologies in enhancing oral communication abilities. Special attention is given to the mobile application Stimuler, which utilizes artificial intelligence to provide learners with an interactive and personalized environment for practicing speaking skills. The findings of the study indicate that modern technologies substantially increase the level of interactivity in language learning, foster learner motivation, and facilitate autonomous learning by providing continuous opportunities for practice and feedback.

Introduction

In the context of globalization and the increasing interconnectedness of societies, the ability to communicate effectively in foreign languages has become one of the most important competencies required in modern education and professional environments. English, in particular, has established itself as the dominant international language of communication in fields such as science, technology, diplomacy, business, and higher education. Consequently, the effective teaching and learning of foreign languages has become a primary objective for educational institutions worldwide.

Within the process of language acquisition, four fundamental skills are generally recognized: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Among these skills, speaking is often

considered the most complex and demanding because it requires the simultaneous use of multiple linguistic and cognitive abilities. In addition to possessing sufficient grammatical knowledge and vocabulary, learners must also demonstrate the ability to think quickly, construct coherent sentences, maintain fluency, and pronounce words accurately in real-time communication.

However, in traditional language learning environments, opportunities for speaking practice are often limited to classroom activities, which may not provide sufficient time for learners to develop confidence and fluency in oral communication. As a result, many learners struggle to overcome psychological barriers such as fear of making mistakes or lack of speaking experience. In recent years, the rapid development of digital technologies has significantly transformed the language learning process by providing learners with innovative tools and platforms that allow them to practice speaking more frequently and effectively.

Modern Technologies and the Language Learning Process

The integration of modern digital technologies into the educational system has led to profound changes in teaching methodologies and learning strategies. Technological innovations have created new opportunities for language learners by providing access to interactive resources, multimedia materials, and virtual communication environments.

Today, various technological tools such as mobile applications, online learning platforms, virtual classrooms, and artificial intelligence-based systems play a crucial role in facilitating language learning. These technologies offer numerous advantages that contribute to improving the overall effectiveness of the educational process.

Interactive Learning Environment. One of the most significant advantages of digital technologies is the creation of highly interactive learning environments. Unlike traditional teaching methods, which often rely on passive learning, digital platforms encourage active learner participation through interactive exercises, simulations, dialogues, and gamified activities. Such interactive experiences help learners remain engaged and motivated while developing their communicative abilities.

Unlimited Access to Learning Resources. Another important benefit of modern technologies is the virtually unlimited access to educational resources provided by the internet. Learners can easily access a wide variety of materials, including video lectures, podcasts, digital textbooks, online courses, and language learning applications. This accessibility allows learners to expand their knowledge beyond the limitations of traditional classroom instruction.

Flexible and Personalized Learning. Modern technological tools enable adaptive learning systems that can adjust educational content according to the learner's individual level of proficiency, learning pace, and specific needs. This flexibility ensures that learners receive appropriate challenges and support, thereby increasing the efficiency of the learning process.

Opportunities for Independent Learning. Perhaps one of the most valuable contributions of modern technologies is their ability to promote autonomous learning. Through mobile applications and online platforms, learners are able to continue practicing their language skills outside the classroom environment, thereby significantly increasing the amount of exposure and practice necessary for language acquisition.

Artificial Intelligence in Language Learning

In recent years, artificial intelligence has emerged as one of the most influential technological innovations in the field of language education. AI-powered systems are capable of analyzing learners' speech patterns, identifying errors, and providing detailed feedback that helps learners improve their linguistic performance.

Artificial intelligence-based language learning platforms typically incorporate several advanced features, including:

- ❖ automatic speech recognition systems capable of detecting pronunciation errors
- ❖ advanced pronunciation correction mechanisms
- ❖ grammatical error detection and correction
- ❖ personalized learning recommendations based on learner performance

These sophisticated technologies allow learners to receive immediate and individualized feedback, which is essential for the effective development of speaking skills.

Famous Individuals Who Have Improved Their Speaking Skills Using Modern Technologies

The impact of modern technologies on language learning can also be observed in the experiences of numerous well-known individuals who have successfully mastered foreign languages through the use of digital tools and online resources.

Today, many language learners rely on internet resources, mobile applications, artificial intelligence systems, and online communication platforms to improve their speaking abilities. These technological tools simplify the learning process and provide learners with opportunities to practice speaking in authentic and interactive environments.

One notable example is Benny Lewis, a well-known polyglot and language-learning expert who has gained international recognition for his innovative language learning methods. Lewis is the founder of the widely known "Fluent in 3 Months" project, through which he demonstrates effective strategies for rapid language acquisition.

By utilizing a variety of digital tools, including online conversation platforms, video communication technologies, and mobile learning applications, Lewis has successfully developed his speaking skills in several foreign languages. According to his approach, one of the most important principles in language learning is to begin speaking from the very first day of study, regardless of the learner's level of proficiency.

Through his blog posts, online courses, educational videos, and public presentations, Lewis continues to share his language learning experiences and methodologies with millions of learners around the world.

The Stimuler Application and Its Role in Developing Speaking Skills

Among the numerous technological tools designed to enhance speaking abilities, the mobile application Stimuler has gained considerable attention due to its innovative use of artificial intelligence technology.

This application provides learners with a highly interactive environment in which they can practice speaking English in a manner that closely resembles real-life communication situations. By integrating AI-powered speech analysis and conversational simulations, the

application allows users to receive immediate feedback and improve their speaking performance.

The primary objective of the Stimuler application is to encourage learners to practice speaking regularly while gradually developing their fluency, pronunciation accuracy, and confidence in oral communication.

Main Features of the Stimuler Application

AI-Based Speaking Exercises: One of the central features of the application involves structured speaking exercises in which users are asked to speak about a given topic for approximately sixty seconds. After completing the task, the system analyzes the recorded speech and provides detailed feedback regarding the user's performance.

Virtual Conversation: Another significant feature of the application is the presence of a virtual artificial intelligence conversation partner named Sarah. This AI-based assistant engages users in interactive conversations by asking questions on various topics, thereby creating a simulated communication environment.

Detailed Speech Analysis: The application evaluates user speech according to several linguistic criteria, including:

- ❖ pronunciation accuracy
- ❖ speech fluency
- ❖ grammatical correctness
- ❖ vocabulary richness
- ❖ speaking pace
- ❖ use of filler words such as “um” and “uh”

Through this comprehensive analysis, users are able to identify their weaknesses and gradually improve their speaking abilities.

IELTS Speaking Preparation: In addition to general speaking practice, the application also provides specialized exercises designed to assist learners who are preparing for the IELTS examination. These tasks closely resemble real IELTS speaking tests and help learners become familiar with the format and expectations of the examination.

Personalized Learning Plan: Furthermore, the application offers personalized learning recommendations based on the analysis of user performance. By identifying individual weaknesses and strengths, the system suggests targeted exercises that help learners improve specific aspects of their speaking ability.

Conclusion

The findings of this study demonstrate that modern technologies play a vital role in the development of speaking skills in foreign language learning. Digital tools such as mobile applications and artificial intelligence-based learning systems significantly enhance the effectiveness of the language learning process by providing learners with interactive, flexible, and personalized learning experiences.

Applications such as Stimuler enable learners to practice speaking independently, receive immediate feedback on their performance, and systematically improve their communication skills. Consequently, the integration of modern technological solutions into language education should be considered an essential component of contemporary teaching methodologies.

Looking ahead, it is highly likely that continued advancements in artificial intelligence and educational technologies will further transform language learning, making it even more accessible, efficient, and engaging for learners worldwide.

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