

**Two-Day National seminar on
"Artificial Intelligence, Multimedia and ICT in Teaching,
Learning and Acquisition"**

sponsored by

Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi
on 23rd and 24th September 2019 at **Department of English,**
SRI S. Ramasamy Naidu Memorial College, Sattur, Tamilnadu, India



**The Impact Of Mall On Learner-Centered Approach In English Language Learning
Process**

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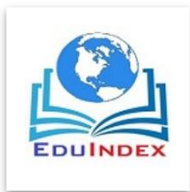
Sri. S. Ramasamy Naidu Memorial College, Sattur.

Abstract

Technology plays an important role in the field of education. This is the reason for the contemporary educators who have been chasing the technological tools and patterns to change their methodology in their field. Traditional method of teaching (chalk and talk) is good no doubt in it and it gratifies the needs of the learners at some extent; but nowadays each and every one of us inhaling the air of technology in every walk of our life. This technocentric atmosphere around us promotes the need of the hour. As English is the most widely spoken language in the world, it includes some innovations through artificial intelligence. The English language teachers especially of higher education scenario search the modern tools and patterns to change their methodology from the traditional set-up to the ultra modern one. This paper is an attempt to highlight some important tools (Apps) which are very useful in learning English at one swipe and also at one sitting. There are tremendous videos for learning everything in English language for example, pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary and day-to-day conversations to arise the interest among student-community for their communication development. By toeing the concept of MALL (Mobile Assisted Language Learning), this paper brings out the utility value of some mobile apps to enhance the attention of the students in learning English language. Why MALL is, there is no one in this world can lead their life without Android in their family. Mobile phones dominate the life style of the youngsters particularly the students. With this notion, this paper highlights the significance of some mobile phone apps and its' impact of language learning to the students.

Keywords: English language learning process, MALL, impact of ICT, learner-centric.

Technology plays an important role in the field of education. This is the reason for the contemporary educators who have been chasing the technological tools and patterns to change their methodology in their field. Traditional method of teaching (chalk and talk) is good no doubt in it and it gratifies the needs of the learners at some extent; but nowadays each and every one us inhaling the air of technology in every walk of our life. This technocentric atmosphere around us promotes the need of the hour. As English is the most widely spoken language in the world, it includes some innovations through artificial intelligence. The English language teachers especially of higher education scenario search the modern tools and patterns to change their methodology from the traditional set-up to the ultra modern one. This paper is an attempt to highlight some important tools (Apps) which are very useful in learning English at swipe and at one sitting. There are tremendous videos for learning everything in English language for example, pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary and day-to-day conversations to arise the interest among student-community for their communication development. By toeing the concept of MALL (Mobile Assisted Language Learning), this paper brings out the utility value of some mobile apps to enhance the attention of the students in learning English language. Why MALL is, there is no one in this world of technology can



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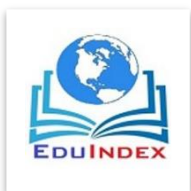
lead their life without one Android in their family. Mobile phones dominate the life style of the youngsters particularly the students. With this notion, this paper highlights the significance of some mobile phone apps and its' impact of language learning to the students.

Impact of ICT results the development of mobile technology in the world. Having Android in one's hand shows their status too. Most of the recent holywood and bollywood movies are also concentrating on the theme of mobile technology. We herewith, can easily understand its recognition in the society. Media reflects and modifies the life style of students and makes them addicted towards the particular device called Android. There is no doubt in it that each and every one of us depend on the technology for everything for instance, one who wants to taste some new dish of western country, immediately we download the Youtube Video and prepare as we wish and tasted it. This is how modern youngsters especially students update themselves at one swipe of their Android. This paper suggests some free Android apps for language learning process and how these apps gratify the language learning stakeholders with some innovative ideas and methods.

Generally, the use of Mobile Apps motivates the self-learning strategy. Learner autonomy is seen as one of the most important elements of MALL. It is explained in Adriana Lazar's article, *Learner Autonomy and its implementation for Language Teacher Training* that the concept of learner autonomy was introduced in the field of language teaching by Holec and refers to "the capacity to take charge of one's learning (...) to have and to hold the responsibility for all decisions concerning all aspects of this learning, (...), determining objectives, defining the contents and progressions, selecting methods and techniques to be used, monitoring the procedures of acquisition, and evaluating what has been acquired." (Adriana Lazar 461) In fact, autonomy represents the core of learning and shifts the emphasis from teacher to learner, enabling the latter to play a considerable role in setting the learning goals, organizing the learning process, and fulfilling those goals.

With the learner-centred approach, teachers agree to share responsibility with their students, helping them to discover their own meaning instead of lecturing and controlling all classroom activities (Adriana Lazar 461). Independence and individual responsibility are core notions of language acquisition. With the increased use of mobile phones and its apps the notion of independence between a group of learners and teachers has emerged. In a textbook-based classroom situation, all the learners must follow the lessons and the teacher is with an examination point of view, and often LA (Language Acquisition as well as Learner Autonomy) is not encouraged. There are many language learning apps available today. There are different claims from all of them about how effective or how fast one can learn a foreign language. It is very difficult to select the right app just based on their claims. There is a growing interest in evaluating the efficacy (or effectiveness) of language learning apps. New users, investors, analysts and academics are eager to learn what they can expect to gain by using the particular software and which software is most effective. This paper suggests the following three Apps and their effectiveness to motivate the students to adapt as their facilitators of English language learning process. They are

- Busuu - Speaking
- Duolingo - Vocabulary



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- Memrise - Vocabulary

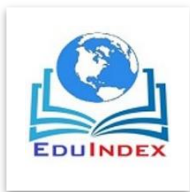
Busuu:

Busuu is one of the best English language apps available today and highly recommended for learning English at beginner level. Designed by linguists, Busuu combines human interaction and AI powered teaching to help the learners to learn a language faster. Though Busuu was founded in 2008, only in 2016 the company launched for Organisations, the language learning platform for universities and businesses. Using the platform, organisations can give their students or employees access to Busuu Premium. The platform allows organisations to view learner's progress and use of the app over time. Busuu incorporates the communicative elements of social learning into self-study language learning. Through its website and mobile apps, Busuu provides language courses in 12 languages and more than 90 million learners worldwide. Through this community, learners can connect with native speakers and get instant feedback on their speaking and writing exercises.

The significance of this App has been recognised by the researchers Roumen Vesselinov and John Grego in their study on *The Busuu Efficacy Study*. They also emphasize some important features of this app in their study. Quoting those features here is very useful and supportive aspect of this paper for gaining and retaining the credibility of the app users especially the students. Some of busuu's key features include:

- Interactive vocabulary and grammar lessons with audio, translation and multiple practice exercises
- Audio recordings of each vocabulary item, plus example sentences and dialogues to place vocabulary and grammar in context
- Voice recording exercises to drill pronunciation and allow students to insert their voice into a dialogue and get feedback from native speakers
- Translations of key vocabulary, instructions and grammar tips into thirteen languages
- Writing exercises which receive instant corrections from native speakers in the busuu community
- busuu-talk (web only) which allows students to find language partners and practice speaking or text chatting with them (04).

Thus Busuu's lessons cover the typical reading, writing, spelling and generating language which one can expect in any language-learning course. Especially for beginners, it helps to know what the users will learn today, what they are expected to have learned by now and what they will learn next. With Busuu, one can talk with native English speakers to practice English speaking and can also provide feedback to people learning English languages or get feedback from more advanced English learners. The study with the research team of university of New York and the University of South Carolina found that 22 hours of busuu is equivalent to one college semester of language learning.



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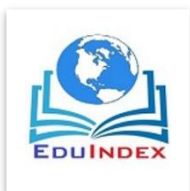
Duolingo:

Duolingo is world's most popular English language learning app today and highly recommended for English beginners. The gamified learning system of the app helps the students learn English quickly by spending 20 minutes a day. Duolingo structures the lessons and that teaches about seven new words based on the given topic and skill points being awarded for completing the lessons. Duolingo lessons adapt to the users learning style. Exercises are tailored to the users learn and review vocabulary effectively. Duolingo is an excellent English learning app that helps cover a lot of materials for English learners of all levels. Many teachers and even entire governments around the world already view Duolingo as the perfect blended learning companion for classrooms. The lessons of Duolingo give each student personalised feedback and practice, preparing them to get the most out of classroom instructions. Over 200 million people around the world use this app to help them learn languages. The fun, game-like lessons keep students motivated and excited about language.

To use the app, learners must download it and install it on their Android device. After the learners have selected which language they wish to learn, the app asks them to "pick a daily goal" from the list appearing before them. The app then inquires whether the learner already knows anything about the language, and if so, it provides the learner with a placement test. If the learner is new to the language, they start with the basics. It is safe to say that Duolingo is a very straightforward app and very simple to use. Without any more questions or even registration for the course, the learner can go right into their first lesson by tapping Start. The exercises are of many types like 1. Translations exercises, in which the learners translate from the language they know to the language they want to learn or the other way around. 2. Matching exercises, in which students can see a photo and an image and match it with the words given like a game. 3. In pairing exercise, users are given an even number of equivalent words from both languages and are asked to pair them. 4. Listening exercises, in which learners are assigned to listen a short phrase in the second language and have to type it correctly. 5. Finally in speaking exercises learners have to say what they hear. Each lesson contains 10 to 15 exercises, a few from each of the categories mentioned above, and learners have a progress bar on the top of their screens. Every time they get an answer right, the bar moves a little bit forward. Every time they get it wrong, the bar does not progress, Duolingo points out the users' mistakes and repeats the question at the end of the exercises until the progress bar is completed. Duolingo also allows the learners to go back to whichever lesson they want, whenever they want, even if they have gotten all the answers right.

Memrise:

Memrise is a English language learning app that helps to kickstart ones' journey with some English lessons for beginners. The intuitive learning system of memrise is designed to make this process fun, easy and addictive. This app has been profitable since late 2016. The basic English course of memrise comprises practical vocabulary, straightforward grammar and useful phrases so one can learn conversational English to apply immediately in the real world. Lessons designed for the beginners in memrise get them to speak English as quickly and confidently as possible. The main characteristic of M-Learning lies in the hands of the learner to decide upon the place and time for language learning. It also provides more



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flexibility in terms of time, place, and resources and can adapt to their lifestyle. (Kukulska-Hulme 14). At memrise, the basic English course cuts the learning into short sessions that one can complete every day, so one can always find time for some practice either at home or on the go. This app determines mastery based upon how many times a user has answered a question containing a given vocabulary word correctly (Catherine Regina Heil 42). Memrise also uses machine learning technology to continue asking user questions on words that have not yet been mastered. Thus Memrise takes us step-by-step through all the essential English that we need to learn, to get us using the language in a meaningful way.

Thus Contemporary ELT pedagogy promotes a change in the direction of language teaching and learning from being predominantly teacher-centered to more student-centered (Mary Spratt and Benji Leung 219). Self-regulated learning can be developed by transforming these devices usage for learning the language. The future research can include how mobile apps can be studied with the perspective of self-access learning. Students choose what they will learn, how they will learn, and decide for themselves how they will assess their own learning. Through self-access learning, the students can determine when and where to learn with the use of online resources. In many instances, it also promotes the fostering of learner autonomy in the language classroom. With a MALL programme, learners can work at their own pace. The learner can spend more time on those topics that are causing difficulty. Information can be reviewed and tasks can also be repeated until the learner is happy to move on to a new topic.

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