# TECHNOLOGY IN TEACHING SPEAKING SKILL: A REVIEW OF CURRENT LITERATURE

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## ABSTRACT

*Speaking is one of the skills that have to be mastered by students in learning English. Speaking is an essential tool for communicating. In the classroom, improving the speaking abilities of students has always been a concern. In the fast developing 21st century various innovative technologies are being introduced to teach speaking skill in the classrooms. Technology is the vehicle to get access with this modernized world. More than the process of communication, trade and transactions, today technology is widely used in educational sectors. Technological tools have been regarded as ways of helping students improve language skills such as speaking skill. Internet, podcasts, video conferencing, videos and speech recognition software are considered the best tools for teaching speaking skill. This paper aims to discuss some modern technologies available for teachers of English today to enhance speaking skill of second or foreign language learners.*

***Keywords: Speaking, Technology, English,***

## INTRODUCTION

It is true that the advent of technology has brought tremendous benefits to human life. People believe that some technological products have set affluent in educational field includes teaching and learning. The use of technology has grow to be an important part of the learning process in and out of the class. Every language class usually uses some form of technology.

This study focuses on the role of using new technologies in teaching and learning English as a foreign language. Since English language has become an international language. English is playing a major role in many sectors including medicine, engineering, education, advanced studies, business, technology, banking, computing, tourism, and so on.

All our software development today, the communication facilities available to us through internet, our access to a variety of websites, are all being carried out in English. Most of the research works are conducted and compiled in English. Anything written and recorded in this language is read and listened to, in wider circles.

As a result, English is being reflected taught and learned around the world as a second language today. From all four key language skills, speaking is deemed to be the most important in learning a second or foreign language. As stated by Ur (1996), speaking included all other skills of knowing that language.

Speaking is "the process of building and sharing meaning through the use of verbal and non-verbal symbols, in a variety of contexts" (Chaney, 1998). Speaking is a crucial part of second language learning and teaching, it's an art of communications and one of 4 productive skills, that must mastered in learning foreign language. Speaking a language is especially difficult for foreign language learners because effective oral communication requires the ability to use the language appropriately in social interactions (Shumin: 2002).

Good speaking skills are the act of generating words that can be understood by listeners. According to Brown and Yule (1983), speaking is the skill that the students will be judged upon most in real-life situations. It is an important part of everyday interaction and most often the first impression of a person is based on his/her ability to speak fluently and comprehensively. So,

teachers have a responsibility to prepare the students as much as possible to be able to speak in English in the real world outside the classroom.

In the preliminary stage, teachers used tape recorders as a technological device to instruct the students, which later evolved as communication laboratory. The integration of technology into language teaching which was started in the early 1960s and 1970s, assisted teachers to teach second language learners how to speak in the best way possible.

Every day teachers are getting access to some new technologies, which join hand with English teaching. As the conventional teaching method such as the chalk and talk method seems to be outdated, the modern technologies can be used as a supplement to the classroom teaching method to have a lively atmosphere in the classroom. It is the need of the hour to integrate modern technologies to upgrade the level of English teaching.

The modern technologies relax the mind of the students to get into the subject with full involvement rather than a difficult task to do. New technologies in language learning by multiple intelligence and mixed abilities replace with old methods of teaching.

Technologies allow students to become more independent in the classroom. It ushers as a fundamental structural changes to achieving significant improvements in productivity. It is used to support teaching and learning. It also has the power to transform teaching by ushering in a new model of connected teaching.

## RESEARCH METHOD

The method of this research is literature study (Research library) that uses books and other literature as the main object. According to Creswell, (1996: 23) library research is type of research that produces information consists notes and descriptive data contained in the text delivered.

In library research, the method used for collect research data in the form of library data that already selected, searched, presented and analyzed (Nunan, 2008: 76). The sources of data in this research were collected by looking at library data whose substance requires processing philosophically and theoretically.

In this paper, the researcher defined the term technology, technological benefits for human, explained the use of technology in teaching speaking, the roles of students in learning speaking, and recommendations for the better use of these technologies, which assist learners in improving their learning skills. The literature

review indicated that the advance of technologies improves learners' language learning on speaking skills.

It is carried out through books, journals, and scientific works on listening skills, learning media, and films. Then selected, presented and analyzed as well processed so that it is concise and systematic. Furthermore, the data were analyzed by using content analysis.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### 1. What is technology?

In order to better understand what technology means, we can refer to the opinions of the following experts: Hennessy, Ruthven, and Brindley (2005), the notion of technology is a way of doing something to meet human needs with the help of tools and reason, so as to extend, strengthen, or make more powerful members of the body, the senses, and the human brain. In brief, the notion of technology is a tool, rule, and procedure for applying scientific knowledge to certain jobs in conditions that enable repetition.

Moreover, Bransford, Brown, and Cocking (2000) mentioned that the meaning of technology is the application of behavioral and natural sciences and other knowledge in a systemic and systematic way to solve human problems. Jacques Ellil argues that the notion of technology is the whole method that rationally leads and has the characteristic of efficiency in every human activity. And finally according to Merriam Webster, the understanding of technology is the application of practical knowledge especially in certain fields; how to complete tasks primarily using technical processes, methods, or knowledge; and special aspects of certain business fields.

### 2. Technological Benefits for Human

Basically, the benefits of technology are to facilitate and accelerate various human activities in various fields of life. Referring to the understanding of technology, as for some of the benefits of technology are as follows:

a. *Information and Communication Sector*
    The most tangible benefit of technology in the field of information technology and communication is an easy, fast, and inexpensive process.

b. *Economics and Business*
    There are many benefits of technology in economics as it is today. For example; the existence of an ATM (Automated Teller Machine) and internet banking that facilitates the payment transaction process.

c. *Education*

Technology also provides many benefits and conveniences in the field of education. One of them is the existence of e-learning system learning system. With this latest learning system, and or simply open a website or application and access learning material online.

In this digital era technology is playing an important role in all major sectors and 'education & teaching' is no exception. It has definitely changed the way we learn and teach.

d. *Transportation Sector*

Technology has provided many benefits and conveniences in the field of transportation, both goods and humans. The existence of various types of transportation, such as; cars, motorbikes, planes and ships, making the process of human travel easier and faster.

e. *Medical Field*

The benefits of technology are also greatly felt in the medical field where the discovery of various methods, some medicines, equipment, and the latest machinery can help doctors and nurses do their work.

## 3. The Roles of Students in Learning Speaking

There are some categories that can be used as the role of learners in developing speaking skills in the classroom (Brown, 2001):

a. *Imitative*

A very limited portion of classroom speaking time may legitimately be speech generating "human tape recorder speech, where, for example, learner practice an intonation contour or try to pinpoint a certain vowel sound. Imitation of this kind is carried out nit the purpose of meaningful interaction, but for focusing on some particular element of language form.

b. *Intensive*

It goes one step beyond imitative to include any speaking performances that are designed to practice some phonological or grammatical aspects of language.

c. *Responsive*

It consists of short replies to teacher-or student-initiated questions or comments.

d. *Transactional (dialogue)*

Transactional was carried out for the purposes of conveying or exchanging specific information, is an

extended form of responsive language.

e. *Interpersonal (dialogue)*

It carried out more the purpose of maintaining social relationships than for the transmission of a fact and information. These conversations are little trickier for learners because they can involve some or all of the following factors – a casual register, colloquial language, emotionally charged language, slang and sarcasm.

f. *Extensive (monolog)*

Here the register is more formal and deliberative. It can be planned or impromptu. Students at intermediate to advanced levels are called on to give extended monologues in the form of oral reports summaries of perhaps short speeches.

## 4. Modern Technologies in Developing Speaking Skill

Technology can stimulate the playfulness of learners and immerse them in a variety of scenarios. Arifah (2014) states technology gives learners a chance to engage in self-directed actions, opportunities for self-paced interactions, privacy, and a safe environment in which errors get corrected and specific feedback is give.

Feedback by a machine offers additional value by its ability to track mistakes and link the student immediately to exercises that focus on specific errors.

Studies are emerging that show the importance of qualitative feedback in softwares. When links are provided to locate explanations, additional help, and reference, the value of technology is further augmented.

Modern technologies available in education today (Ahmadi, Mumamad Reza, 2018; Charol A Chapelle, 2003; Amber Navare, 2019): 1). Communication lab, 2). 3) Video conferencing, 4). Video Library, 5). CALL (Computer Assisted of Language Learning), 6). TELL (Technology Enhanced Language Learning), 7). Pod casting, 8) Quick Link Pen, 9). Quicktionary, 10). Programmes of educational satellites, 11). Speech Recognition Software, 12). Internet, 13). Blogging, 14). Vlogging.

## 5. Implementing technology in Teaching Speaking:

### Communication Labs

Software's are available to develop speaking skills. By incorporating suitable software through computers the students will play it again and again with their own interest and try to improve

their speaking skills, which are most essential in this modernized IT world (Carol A chapelle, 2018). The usage of headphones in the lab makes the students to have interest over the subject and induces them to repeat again and again instead of feeling boredom.

### Video Conferencing

Video conferencing is the method in which one person can access to the speeches of other persons in some other parts of the world. It is the live relay of a programme, which is mostly used to view the lecture of a professor who resides in foreign country (Amber Novarre, 2019).

In short it is very helpful for the students to understand what is going in this world and to hear the speech of the top most personalities in a lively manner. The most notable point in video conferencing is that the students can post questions immediately and get their answers at once.

### Video Library

Video Libraries are most essential in our fast and modernized world. This is helpful for the students to those who miss some interesting session. In this process the teaching of the faculty will be recorded and made available to the students. The students can view the tapes in their leisure hours. The advantage in this method is that students can

replay it when there is a necessity.

### CALL and TELL

The educational role of Computers in learning a second language and the role of CALL (Computer Assisted Language Learning) and TELL (Technology Enhanced Language Learning) is the use of computer technology including hardware, software and the internet to enhance teaching and learning of languages (Amber Novarre, 2019).

The teacher can use the latest technologies, which have the potential to transform the students from passive recipients of information into active participants. CALL and TELL is defined as the search for and study of applications of the Computer in language teaching and learning.

### Pod Casting

Podcasts can be uploaded or downloaded, this audio help the learner familiarize with the target language and teachers can use them as useful audio material that can be used in class for activities like discussions, besides, in the web, there are even particular podcasts that are for ESL/EFL learners and these can include pronunciation for particular needs of students.

Podcast undoubtedly help learners in speaking. Pod casting is the integration of audio files where we can

feed our own materials and ply it inside and outside of the classroom. Students use i-pods to hear their favorite music files. In the same way they have their education in the form of entertainment.

### Quick Link Pen

Quick Link Pen allows learners to copy and store printed text, Internet links. It helps to transfer the data to computers and enables the reader to get the meaning of the word from a built in dictionary. Accessing this type of machine seems to be a more convenient method. Recent developments in machine translations presents translation engines like GO Translator and Bablefish.

### Quicktionary

It is a pen-like device. It allows the reader to easily scan the word and get its definition and translation on its own LCD screen. Technology such as Enounce and Sound-Editor enable learners to adjust the speech rate of listening materials to assist their comprehension, and present spectrum of speech waves and visual depictions of mouth and tongue movement to ease the learning and refine pronunciation.

### Educational Satellites

In the college we can create Educational Satellite lab, whereby satellite programs of educational value like UGC"s country wide classrooms, Anna University programmes and other world wide programmes are recorded and students are given access to the recording either through big screen or small monitor.

### Speech Recognition

Software Speech recognition software also helps improving the students speaking, this can convert spoken words to machine-readable input. The device recognizes the accuracy of what was read and then provides a positive reinforcement like "You sound great!" or gives the user an opportunity to try again, in this way the learner can figure if he is reading well or not.

### Internet

Internet is a commonly acknowledged term and widely used by people throughout the world. Students now use Internet in the class to learn English. Online teaching inside the classroom seems to be interesting and makes the students to find out the suitable materials for them(Carol A chapelle, 2018).

Students are instructed to do the grammar exercises which are available online. Through Internet we can collect data from various sources for any instruction. to improve speaking, students can use Skype, MSM Messenger, Google talk

(used to have conferences on line) and other applications where students can connect with friends, other students, teacher and even native speakers, these ways of learning have been observed to improve oral proficiency in students and make up for the lack of native speakers in the areas where students live and what is more, on line conferences also enhance intercultural awareness, motivation and raise the level of interaction.

### *Blogging*

Blogging can be used for instructing the candidates when the teacher is off campus. The teacher can post his article or the instruction to the students, where the students are allowed to post their comments and queries (Carol A chapelle, 2018). The teacher can answer the question through his blog. Blogging seems to be widely in use.

## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Using technology in learning a second language has become a real necessity nowadays. This paper has reviewed briefly how technology can be utilized in developing the speaking skill of the learners. Different methods for using technology in improving speaking skill were discussed thoroughly. As a result, the following concluding remarks and recommendations can be recorded:

a. As technology has developed the incorporation of this medium into the instruction process become necessary.

b. The computer is being viewed more as an integral part of the learning activity, and as a means by which skills are transferred to learners.

c. Theory and practice in second language learning can be matched together by the use of modern technology.

d. Modern technical ways should be followed for effective learning and teaching of the speaking skill.

e. English language teachers should encourage their students to use technology in developing their speaking skill.

f. Educational institutions should modernize their technical instruction capabilities by using new equipments and laboratories for supporting the teaching process.

g. Modern technological tools are much more interesting and provide fun and enjoyable learning, motivating the students, and help them to enhance their language learning in a

fruitful way, moreover, these tools help students learn at their own pace and promote autonomy in them.

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