



## Impact of Using Audio-visual aid in Language Learning and Teaching Process

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### Abstract:

*In today's revolutionized and fast pacing world, it is seen that mostly people are getting obsessed with the comfort zone that the technology is providing. Technology is proving out to be a boon to mankind in many aspects if used effectively. Using multimedia in the teaching and learning English language is no exception to the insurgency that expertise has bought in the tutorial room practices. Integrating technology i.e. consuming multimedia has not only sustained the language learning but also has get rid of the emphasis from the mentor centered to apprentice centered learning. Multimedia tools like power point, flash animations, audio visual materials, documentaries, online learning practices are used in language classrooms for active learning and teaching. Language implementers have realized that in order to foster learning environs, teaching through multimedia becomes inexorable.*

*Focusing on using multimedia in teaching language skills the impartial of the paper is firstly to list the benefits of using multimedia. Secondly to find out how effective is multimedia in language learning and teaching. And thirdly what should be kept in mind while incorporating multimedia in customary classroom practices.*

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**Keywords:** Audio-visual aids, Classroom practices, Language skills, Multimedia, Technology

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### 1. Introduction

“Technology won't merely change the way that educational services are delivered and consumed. Technology will also significantly change the face of the education profession”

**Pamela Stub-bart**

Technological advances in our world have brought about an insurgency not only in the field of trade, industry, medicine but also in education. Conventional education has no longer been the source of acquiring acquaintance. Learning with technology has become inevitable in today's educational consequence and have changed the way knowledge is imparted and gained. And here E-learning has played a significant role.

For emerging obligatory skills that are required at corporate level, languages teachers have been annoying hard to find out the altered ways that can make the language learning experience of the students effective and efficient. The quest of this pedagogy has found its way through the use of computer assisted learning, radios and TV broadcast.

### 2. Multimedia in classroom

Multimedia is the integration of text, graphics, animation, sound, and/or video. When we talk about using Multimedia in the classroom it can includes Power Point presentations that are created by the teacher, commercial software that is used for reference or instruction, or activities that directly engross the students in using multimedia to construct and convey knowledge. The intention of using

multimedia in the classroom is to construct and convey knowledge effectively that makes the learning stimulating.

## ***2.1 Benefits of Using Multimedia in Language Classroom***

### ***2.1.1 Leads to Better Learning***

Studies and researches have shown that if multimedia is used in the proper way it leads to better learning and teaching environs. Learning through this profits less time and is enjoyed more. Multimedia has provided the opportunity of energetic learning reassuring some thoughts and actions on the part of the students.

### ***2.1.2 Makes the session interactive***

Numerous studies have found that interactivity has a strong positive effect on learning (Bosco, 1986, Fletcher, 1989, 1990, Stanfford, 1990). Multimedia gives an opportunity to get involved in the interaction

### ***2.1.3 Increases motivation***

Motivation to learn the language is very important when we talk about effective learning and teaching. These days as students are becoming more and more smart and intelligent to teach students through traditional methods make the students less interested in the subject especially in learning English language. But if the teacher adopts various techniques using multimedia like showing documentaries and doing online activities the students can be motivated to learn and engage actively.

One of the problems with modern student is that he/she doesn't like to take any notes during lecture. In this case the student can be actively participate during lecture since s/he will receive all necessary information later on and can access the information whenever s/he likes to.

### ***2.1.4 Students centered learning***

As mentioned earlier also using multimedia or any sort of technology in the classroom leads to learner centered learning. Students show accountability for learning when collaborative activities or project based learning is implemented through technology.

### ***2.1.5 Different learning styles can be addressed***

One biggest advantage of using multimedia in classroom for language learning and teaching is it allows the teachers to address different learning styles which students may find interesting and innovative. If the teacher uses multimedia students can see, hear, and imagine what things are represented to bring the subject to life.

### ***2.1.6 Keeping the students updated with technological advances***

As we are living in the age of technical revolution it becomes inevitable for all to have information of how and where technology should be used. Similar is the case with the students. Students are considered to be the future citizens of the nation who might have to compete at a global level because of globalization. Hence if technology or multimedia tools are used for teaching and learning purpose students do get exposure to the ever-changing arena of technical world.

### ***2.1.7 Access to limitless resources for teaching and learning***

Today it has become important for the teachers to bring about a change not only in the practices of teaching but also the variety of content selected for teaching. Earlier the teacher had to heavily rely on the prescribed text for teaching but now with the help of technology and the aid that multimedia has provided the teacher not only experiment with the teaching styles but also the variety of content given to students. With the help of multimedia more ideas can be explored and brought into actions.

## 2.2 Implementing Multimedia in Classroom

It is obvious that if one wants to integrate multimedia in the classroom it requires prior planning for implementation. But this planning is done keeping in mind the objectives of proposed activities, its importance and the standard of the audience that is to be addressed. Apart from planning the following steps have to be kept in mind for effective learning through multimedia.

Phase	Activities
Decide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decide on relevant standards and benchmarks</li> <li>Decide if multimedia is appropriate</li> <li>Decide which learning outcomes are desired</li> <li>Decide on appropriate assessment measures</li> </ul>
Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inventory available hardware and software</li> <li>Determine the grouping strategy and roles</li> <li>Specify length/duration of activity</li> <li>Design a lesson/unit plan with a multimedia activity</li> </ul>
Deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Media development skills</li> <li>Classroom management and configuration</li> <li>Facilitating multimedia activities</li> </ul>
Evaluate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student checklists</li> <li>Evaluation options</li> <li>Reflection and revision</li> </ul>

## 3. Effectiveness of Using Multimedia in Classroom

In order to access the effectiveness of multimedia the researchers had conducted a small survey among the teachers and the students of S. S. PATEL SCIENE AND COMMERCE COLLEGE AT VISNAGAR. The faculty members of Department of Communication Skills teach professional communication to 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> S semester students and they usually employ audio visual techniques and material to teach language and soft skills to the Science students. Therefore, interviews were conducted where few faculty members and students were asked to give their point of view regarding use of multimedia in classroom.

## 4. Students Perspective

34 Students of semester 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> were interviewed and asked the following question. The responses are also given below

### Q) Do you prefer learning language or soft skills through multimedia?

- Majority of the students answered that they preferred learning language or soft skills through multimedia because it gives them a new method of learning apart from text book learning.

### Q) Is Using Multimedia in classroom beneficial in learning process?

The following are the general responses of the students

- When multimedia techniques are used in the class it helps to understand and connect ourselves to the content easily and quickly as we can visualize the situation instead of imagining.
- Usage of video clips based on the content with real life examples helps to manage and tackle situations faced in personal and professional life.
- Learning professional communication through multimedia changes the entire atmosphere in the classroom making learning more interesting and interactive.
- Teaching through chalk and talk method sometimes brings boredom among the students but on other hand if audio visual aids like presentations and video clips are used it has a positive impact on the students increasing students motivation to learn.
- As students are more interested in the digital world, it is a better option to include multimedia materials as a part of education system to make education fruitful and productive
- As it has been said that images are thousand times more effective than words using multimedia helps to retain the topic long after that has been taught.

- The use of multimedia enhances the thinking capabilities of the students and helps to grasp the content easily.
- overhead projectors, online discussions, audio video instruments like recorders, tapes, cd players for listening activities makes the learning process easy as it includes pictorial elements that catch their attention. Students enjoyed more when audio was used for listening comprehension.

### **5. How Should Teachers and Students Use Multimedia in Language Learning and Teaching?**

Teachers play a vital role in teaching process and at the same time in successful integration of technology in the classroom. For these teachers:

- Need to have a thorough knowledge of how to use technical instruments because many a time if the teacher is not having adequate knowledge about technology and how it is used it leads to waste of time.
- The teacher should not completely depend upon the multimedia for teaching. Many a times the teacher completely depends upon the PowerPoint presentations that s/he has prepared and when the PowerPoint fails to work because of some technical problem the teacher finds it difficult to teach.
- The teachers should encourage the students to use technology or multimedia for preparing assignments and projects.
- Teacher should combine multimedia and chalk and talk method rather than solely relying on multimedia for teaching purpose.
- Language learning through online practices should be incorporated.
- Blogs should be used to deliver the content related to several topic included in the curriculum.

### **6. Conclusion**

The fact that technology has changed the educational scenario cannot be ignored and therefore has to be accepted. Technology has not only made the learning and teaching process interesting but also it has made the process learner centered. The use of multimedia has motivated the students to learn and participate actively in the language learning. Therefore in this age of revolution and tech savvy generation it becomes indispensable for the teachers and learners not to be alienated with technical world. But how effectively is multimedia used in teaching and learning process is important. One cannot completely rely completely on multimedia or other technology for effective learning or teaching. There should be a natural integration in the teaching process where multimedia can successfully and appropriately reach the content. For this there should be proper planning keeping the taste of students in mind, practice, comfort with the multimedia tools, creativity and innovation in planning activity with help of multimedia and backup planning if required.

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