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USE OF E-SOURCES FOR ESL TEACHING AND LEARNING

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Abstract

This study evaluates various effective web-based resources to emphasis the importance of ESL (English as a Second Language) learning and teaching. Web-based resources have imperative impact on English as a Second Language (ESL) teaching and learning significantly. Web-based resources help ESL teachers and students to transfer ESL learning and teaching procedures. Efficient ESL teaching and learning materials have been offered with World Wide Web (WWW) to extend ESL lessons among teachers and learners. This research paper also reflects ways of finding web-based resources and dealing processes of important web-based resources for teachers and learners. How video and audio resources are converted for ESL resources? Diverse web-based popular ESL learning and teaching resources websites have been highlighted in this study to facilitate ESL teachers and learners. Moreover, this study directs ESL teachers and learners to investigate web-based sources to widen the usefulness of ESL learning and teaching in the world.

Keywords: *ESL, Web-based resources, teaching and learning.*

1. Introduction

The web-based education is a rising concern all over the world and there have been efforts on its function into language teaching or complementing the traditional technique with online learning and teaching (Rajaram, 2011). The author, ignited by his enthusiasm for making use of multimedia, and stimulated by his two-decade knowledge in an engineering college, shares his realistic experience in exploring web-based-learning resources to build up computer-supported learning tools to enliven the ESL learning. Web-based learning intrinsically and extrinsically motivates learners and ease the process of having plenty of materials. It is web-based learning materials which are really effective to study and teach foreign language. E-language learning is becoming an advance teaching tactic of foreign language because of important impact of information technology on education (Shih-Jen, Huang, 2000). In another study, Chapelle (2003) has suggested that the teachers, who teach English to speakers of other language, need to be significantly and specifically conscious about the acquaintances of technology to amplify language

learning and research. The present study titled as is very significant as we are living in the era of advanced information and technology. Technology enhanced language teaching has been an exclusive trend now. As a part of this, E-sources are very popular now in the field of teaching and learning and especially in the field of second/foreign language teaching and learning. So, the current study will open up a new insight for the other researchers as well.

2. Objectives

The study aims not only to remain confined to depict the conscious use of technology but also discover the accurate paves for mind-blowing teaching techniques, innovative communication and contextual information for learners.

3. Literature Review

Over the past several decades, studies shows that the relationship between Web-based resources and ESL teaching and learning with a view to focusing on several vital issues, including enthusiasm, learning environments and important skills improvement for the ESL teachers and learners in the world. This study reviews important literatures/secondary sources to find out similarities, innovations, uniqueness, and useful findings, suggestions from previous literatures to evaluate Web-based resources for ESL teaching and learning. Web can hold up language teachers to incorporate Web resources into the language classroom (Son, 2007; Warschauer, 2001). The present study also deals with how the ESL instructors can apply E-sources in their classrooms. Son (2007) mentions in the study that the World Wide Web offers a worldwide record of authentic materials which can recover dimensions of language learning and teaching. The current study also examines the work out of the web for language teaching and learning. In the same way, Koschmann (1996) declared that the Computer-Supported Collaborative Learning (CSCL) form includes web-based mutual learning systems for the teachers and learners. The present study is concerned same way in this respective field to unfold how the collaboration of technologies can enhance teaching-learning phenomena. Neo (2003) found in the study that students engaged in web-based mutual learning improved their problem-solving and critical thinking skills, educated to work in a team, and grow to be more autonomous learners. Basically the web-based resources permit learners to obtain up-to-date information in a lot of areas, and influence and reuse primary resources in a variety of ways (Kim, Hannafin, & Bryan, 2007; Jang, 2009). The concerned study aims to bring into light how E-sources can benefit learners in many ways. Kuiper, Volman, & Terwel (2009) state that there are three components of web literacy: web searching skills, web reading skills, and web evaluation skills. In human-computer communication literature, much stress has been placed on the significance of user-centered design (Norman & Draper, 1986; Norman, 2002).A search engine is the first position where a lot of web users go to discover what they need (Krug, 2005; Silver, 2005). Rajaram (2011) states in his studies that there are variety of websites from which audio, video; stories, pictures, photographs, cartoons, comics, lesson plans, work sheets, and language games can be downloaded freely.

According to Watson (2001), personal and professional functions have been influenced by ICT which changes in education setting. Even professionalism can be influenced on the basis of ICT to do in better ways. The current study also deals with the same issue to unfold the use of ICT, especially for gathering and using knowledge through E-sources and improving professionalism. ICT impacts pedagogical methods in the classrooms and teaching practices, innovation in education and community services are dominated by the use of ICT (Mikre, 2011). Pedagogical systems can be developed with ICT as it is very much easy for the teachers and the learners. By using ICT, students can be kept in touch with teachers time to time and meaningful learning can be taught by ICT based teaching. According to Fu (2013), ICT is the great embodiment of educational possibilities and supporting for both teachers and learners. Actually, ICT can be acted as very much supporting factors for students and the teachers. Brush, Glazewski and Hew (2008) have conducted study that learning topics, problem solving issues for processing learning can be discovered by ICT and ICT can acquire knowledge, concepts and understanding learning areas. Lot of problems can be solved with the help of ICT. Modern ICT based tools are able to create strong and outstanding support for competence and performance based programs

(Oliver, 2000). Quality of education can be increased with the potentiality of ICT. Learners are developed with ICT based education and information sources and cognitive tools are used as computers (Jonassen and Reeves, 1996). Updated and quality teaching and learning can be increased with ICT. The present study also is concerned to examine how ICT helps the teachers and learners to construct and develop critical thinking ability and open up new horizon of knowledge very easily and authentically through the field of E-sources.

4. Methodology

The present study used only qualitative method to collect and analyze data. Data for this study have been collected through other related studies in this field and the academic and research experiences of the researchers in the perspective arena. Besides, different critical journal articles were proved to be supportive to develop the main idea of the current study.

5. Findings and Discussion

5.1. E-Sources

E-sources are the inevitable parts of the field of academia and research that are stored through ICT devices in an exclusive form. This digital storehouse of knowledge is available to the users through technology based system that needs the use of internet and devices like computer, tabs, smart phones etc. Those E-sources are categorized in different categories. It is very easy having access E-sources for the user. They can get their necessary materials within the shortest period of time. So many users can access in an E-source same time. Huge E-source can be stored in a small storage also. In the field of ESL teaching and learning, E-sources are randomly used by the teachers and students to have updated materials from all over the world.

Table-1: Different E-sources for ESL Teaching and Learning

Different E-sources	
E-Book	E-Thesis
E-Journal	E-Clipping
E-Newspaper	E-Patents
E-Magazines	E-Standards
Indexing	MP3 recorder
Linked In	Blogs
Facebook	Twitter

5.2. Websites for acquiring materials, information, lessons, exercises, and tests for ELT

The web-based resources add vast depth to traditional instruction materials. Incorporation of the multi-media tools into the language curriculum engages students in more communicative, authentic, contextualized, and interactive activities that practice all four skills in an integrated fashion. Now, let us identify some of the useful and authentic websites for downloading the resources for developing computer-based teaching tools. These tools can really engage the learners and so they could listen, recall, understand, apply, evaluate and create with interest and enthusiasm. In the world of information and communication technology, teachers are highly motivated teaching with ICT. They enjoy teaching with ICT with their students. In performance with geographical flexibility, technology-facilitated learning programs also eliminate numerous of the temporal restrictions that face learners with exceptional needs (Moore &Kearsley, 1996). The learners are sincerely involved to learn in ICT classrooms (Lu, Hou& Huang, 2010). Therefore, the teachers is intensively related and involved to teach learners in the classrooms. Accordingly the researchers have vigilantly collected some websites' address and information to enhance the classroom performance of both the teachers and the students.

Name of the websites for ESL	Functions
www.khanacademy.com	Covers materials for almost all the fields
www.esl-lab.com	Specialized for listening materials
http://www.eslprintables.com/	English Language teachers exchange resources
www.englishmedialab.com	Features Several ESL Exercises Online
www.freeenglishnow.com	Specialized for vocabulary materials
http://10minuteschool.com/	Academic and professional learning platform
www.englishfreeware.com	Specialized for speaking materials
www.real-english.com	Incorporates state of the art interactivity and unique multimedia features
https://independentcampus.com/	Specialized for grammar resources
http://busyteacher.org/	Provides Printable worksheets and lesson plans for teaching English
https://www.eslpod.com/	Presents speaking and listening resources
https://www.gcflearnfree.org/	Storage of technological resources for teaching & learning
https://www.eslfast.com/	Provides resources for four skills development
http://www.world-english.org/	Almost a complete storehouse of resources for English language learning
http://www.esl-galaxy.com/	Deals with ESL Lesson Plans, Materials & Activities
www.free-english-study.com	Provides resources regarding four basic skills and grammar
www.onestopenglish.com	Exclusive in proving teachers' materials
http://www.eslcafe.com/	Platform for ESL/EFL teachers & students
www.focusenglish.com	Dedicated to helping ESL/EFL learners develop conversational English skills
www.youtube.com	One of the biggest storehouse of sources in all the arena
http://www.dailyesl.com/	Resources regarding English for Everyday Living
http://a4esl.org/	Specialized for vocabulary and grammar resources
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/	Offers free resources including Writing and Teaching Writing
http://www.languageguide.org/english/	Provides grammar & vocabulary resources
https://elt.oup.com/	Presents teaching and learning resources in the field of English
https://www.rong-chang.com/	Resources for Beginners
https://esllibrary.com/	Provides resources for English instructors
http://www.better-english.com/	Specialized in providing materials for Business-English
http://www.esl-galaxy.com/	ESL lesson Plans , materials & activities sheets provider
http://www.esl-lounge.com/	Provides high quality PDF lesson plans with full teacher notes

6. Recommendations

The study discloses the effective use of web-based resources for ESL teaching and learning environments. All the learners are not experienced using ICT for web-based resources with a view to teach and learn also. Even, the internet based teaching and learning system is not popular all over the world as internet facilities are not available in all the countries. Several limitations are available in this study as. All the learners and teachers are not equally experienced using ICT for searching ESL resources as all the classrooms, learning places and institutions of the world are not internet oriented. Therefore, it can be mentioned that if the internet competences are available all over the world, the web-based resources for ESL teaching and learning procedure will be active, common and popular.

7. Conclusion

Based on the effective reviews on web-based resources for ESL teaching and learning, it is shown that the ESL teachers and learners have a constructive approach towards ICT and they frequently believe that web-based resources have potential to enhance ESL. The learners and teachers enjoy using web-based resources for learning and teaching as well. This paper shows that learning ESL is an advantage for learners and they can obtain various helpful facilities through web-based resources. By and large, it can be emphasized that the learners and teachers have positive approach towards ESL web-based resources to learn and teach.

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