

The Role of Audio Visual Aids in Teaching And Learning English Language



English Language Teaching

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P. C. VISWANATH

Asst. professor of English Vishnu Institute of Technology, Bhimavaram

MAHESWARA RAO.CH

Asst. professor of English Vishnu Institute of Technology, Bhimavaram

ABSTRACT

Language teaching and learning is a complex processes. To make all the complexities of teaching and learning processes easier, well-advanced teaching aids are the need of the hour. The monotony of learning process can be avoided by the effective utilization of audio-visual aids. The present paper focuses on the role of different audio-visual aids in assisting trainer as well as learner in learning a foreign language and also it explains the importance of traditional aids as well as the most advanced aids in teaching leaning process.

Introduction

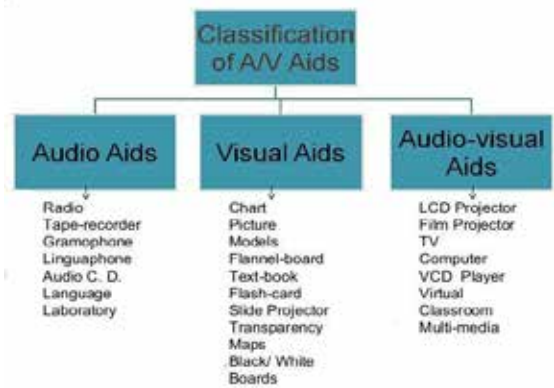
Teaching and Learning of a second language is a convoluted process. Since English is considered as a global language, it is a difficult task to the instructor to make students attentive and involve in learning process. In order to create a congenial atmosphere, creative methods and advanced resources are to be used in a language class room so that students can be attracted and interested in gaining second language skills successfully. In present competitive world, the use of advanced and updated teaching aids is getting prominence in teaching a foreign language like English. A creative platform for English language learning which is equipped with audio visual aids is encouraging for successful language acquisition. Both audio and visual aids are the pertinent resources to teach and learn English language in an effective way. "Visual aids enhance the effectiveness of teaching learning process in a classroom (Joshi, 1995 & Vissa, 1994)".

It is an open secret that audio- visual aids provide optimum services to energize both the learner and the teacher in teaching and learning process. Language teachers have been using different technical and non technical teaching aids to make class room activities more motivating and interactive. According to Wright (1976:1) many media and many styles of visual presentation are useful to the language learner. That is to say, all audio-visual materials have positive contributions to language learning as long as they are used at the right time, in the right place.

Advantages of audio visual aids

- Audio visual aids help to avoid un wanted, empty and hollow verbalization in teaching English.
- They clarify the subject matter.
- They kindle curiosity in learning new things.
- They make class room environment lively and strength students' memory by evoking all his senses.
- They help to grab the attention of students in an easy manner.
- Audio visual aids pave the path to introduce new methods to students which stimulate learners' mind to create innovative methods.
- They help us communicate the information to the large number of audience at one stage.

Classification of audio visual aids



Picture.1 Audio visual aids.

Audio aids

Radio

Radio is one of the learning aids to gain language skills. All India Radio has in its regular programs. In addition to the regular programs, it broadcasts some of the programs like quiz, speeches and some moral story programs in English. Of late, our honorable prime minister sri Narendra Modi Ji has been giving different kinds of talks in All India Radio to reach his message to every corner of the country. The programs which are broadcasted by the radio are useful to the learner to learn correct pronunciation and accent and also can develop good listening skills in addition to knowledge.

Gramophone

It is one of the audio teaching aids which is not in much use at present. It can be used to record the best pronunciation and accent and the clarity of language by an English teacher and can be replayed to the students in the class room but care to be taken at the time of recording. It also can be used to record motivational speeches by eminent speakers, writers, poets and replayed to the students so that students can be inspired by them and create interest towards English language and learn beautiful expressions from the great speakers.

Tape recorder

Tape recorder is a good audio aid to train the students in listening skills and it offers good opportunities to students who try to study in distance mode. Most of the universities are offering different courses through distance mode. To gain all four types of skills, correct accent and pronunciation in English language, tape recorders are more helpful. Good informative lectures have

been given by well qualified professors in the universities like EFLU that can be recorded in cassettes and used by the people who cannot attend to the lectures directly. "The notion that education is a process that goes on within the four walls of the classroom is also shattered (Antony, A.)" In the process of learning English language, one can record their own voice and can be evaluated by one self. Television programs, live speeches, motivational lectures can be recorded and played in the class room.

Visual aids

Black and white board

It is a mode of encouraging students to come out to the board to draw some pictures and ask him/her to describe in simple English. To teach a lesson or a chapter in an effective way, divide the board into two parts. Use the first part to introduce new terminology of the lesson by giving the family of that particular word and write grammatical points of the lesson and explain. The second part of the board is to be used to write the theme lines of each paragraph one by one so that a teacher can connect and consolidate all the points easily at the end.

Maps

Maps are useful material in training English speaking activities to describe route of some place and also used in an activity like giving directions to the people who are new to the place.

Flannel board

This is one of the important teaching and training materials to motivate students to make posters on various issues and are to be displayed in the flannel board and also used to display collages prepared by students on different concepts. Collage will make students more active and enhance their logical thinking.

Pictures and models

English language laboratory is the platform where students can improve their listening and speaking skills. Describing a picture or a person is one of the activities in which a student can acquire knowledge on various topics and present them before their peer group. This activity trains the students how to manage a description of picture or personality more effectively.

In addition to the above said visual aids, text books, flash cards, OHPs are playing pivotal roles in helping the trainer as well as the learner in teaching and learning processes of a new language. Thus, these are a bit old methods comparatively with some of the audio visual aids which are getting more prominence in present days.

Audio -Visual aids

Virtual class room

Globalization is a term which connects all countries with the express expansion and makes use of information and communication technology in business, communication, transportation and education etc. it has been playing a key role in all the stages of growth and progress and leave indelible mark on various core sectors of the society especially on education sector. Modern technologies have made teaching and learning processes much easier by connecting people from far away places.

Virtual class rooms are useful for fulfilling the gap between academic experts and distance learners through which the learner can get important guide lines from the skilled people by having internet connection. Online classes also can be arranged to clarify the doubts of the learner. Lectures can be recorded and telecasted when the learner is interested.

Television and CD player

Television is one of the most useful teaching aids in teach-

ing English language. It provides diverse programs with realistic situations and scenes which will help the learner to develop listening skills, variations in pitch and voice and also beautiful expressions from good speakers. Many of the programs are broadcasted in simple English language so that learner can show keen interest to learn. "Dawes (2001) rightly points out that new technologies have the potential to support education across the curriculum". Teachers must have complete awareness in utilizing latest and advanced resources. Speeches of eminent persons and practice sessions on various areas like simple rhymes, moral stories can be stored and played whenever the learner is interested and also CD player is affordable to many rather than a computer. It is the most useful for the distant learners to get lessons easily.

Computer with sound system

The two important words which are used intensely in present days are globalization and information technology. As Harry Samuels argues, "Much more recent developments in social media and information technology are taking foreign-language education in new directions" (19). As world is accelerating towards inventing and using technological equipment in all the sectors. Education field is one of them to use advanced resources for making teaching and learning more fruitful. Computers with internet connection are used widely to teach language skills as well as training in different areas with assorted exercises. Online lectures, which bridge the gap between student and the trainer, also can be arranged from faraway places.

The impact of Language Laboratories has been a good deal of experience in the sphere of communication. We exist on a multilingual and multicultural planet, which is being minimized to the extent of a township by the expansion of knowledge and machinery. The language lab software available to aid individuals to make use of tools effectively to communicate. It is not just for acquiring a particular language, but can be used for schooling more foreign languages resourcefully. The utilization of language lab system has transformed the mode of teaching and learner can gain optimum level of knowledge of that particular language.

Conclusion

The use of audio visual aids in teaching and learning English language is a great step. It is a methodology to teach all categories of skills by actively involving the students in various activities. Audio visual class rooms are alternative to the traditional class rooms in which a learner may focus on every minor to major aspects of concepts. However, the teachers are to be well trained in using multiple advanced technical teaching aids to make learning environment comfortable and amicable to reach the needs of the learner.

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