THE EFFECTIVENESS OF DIGITAL LEARNING PLATFORMS IN DEVELOPING ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS

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Abstract. The development of digital technologies has significantly changed modern education.Digital learning platforms provide new opportunities for students to improve their English language skills trough interactive exercises, educational videos and online activities.this article examines the effectiveness of digital platforms in developing four main language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.It focuses on platforms such as Duolingo, BBC Learning English, Quizlet and Google Classroom.The study explores their advantages,limitations and contribution to independent learning.The analysis shows that digital platforms con improve students' motivation an support language development when combined with effective teaching methods.

Keywords: digital technologies, modern education, digital learning platforms, English language skills, students' motivation, teaching methods.

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, digital technologies plays an important role in education.The development of the internet,smartphones and educational applications has changed the way students learn forign languages.English, as an international language,is increasingly taught through digital resources and online platforms.

Traditional classroom methods remain important, but digital platforms offer additional opportunities to practise English anytime and anywhere.students can watch videos,listen to audio materials, read online texts and complete interactive exercises.

The main aim of this article is to examine how digital learning platforms contribute to developing the four main english language skills and to identify their benefits and challanges.

THE ROLE OF DIGITAL LEARNING PLATFORMS IN ENGLISH EDUCATION

Digital learning platforms are online applications designed to support the teaching and learning process.They provide educational materials, interactive exercises and opportunities for independent study.For example,Doulingo helps students develop vocabulary and grammar through interactive activities. BBC Learning English provides listening materials and pronunciation exercises.Quizlet supports vocabulary learning throug flashcards and quizzes, while Google classroom helps teachers organize lesoons and assignments.

These platforms make learning more flexible and allow students to study according to their individual needs and language levels.

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3. Developing the Four English Language Skills

3.1. Listening skills

Digital platforms provide access to podcasts,videos, interviews and audio recordings.BBC Learning English, for example , helps students improve listening comprehension and become familiar with different accents.Repeated listening also develops pronunciation awareness and vocabulary.

3.2. Speaking Skills Speaking is often challenging for English learners.Online discussions, video calls and AI-powered conversation tools provide opportunities to practise communication and pronunciation.These activities can increase students' confidence and reduce their fear of making mistakes.However, communication with teachers and other learners remains essential.

3.3. Reading Skills Online articles,electronic books and educational texts help students develop reading comprehension and vocabulary. Digital dictionaries make unfamiliar words easier to understand. Students can also choose reading materials according to their interests and language levels.

3.4. Writing Skills Digital platforms support writing through online assignments,grammar exercises and feedback tools.Google Classroom allows teachers to check students' written work and provide corrections.These resources help learners improve grammar,vocabulary and sentence structure.However, students should develop independent writing skills rather than relying entirely on automatic correction tools.

4. Advantages and Challenges of digital Learning Platforms

Digital learning platforms offer several advantages.They provide flexible access to educational materials,increase motivation through interactive activities and allow students to receive immediate feedback.They also encourage independent learning and help students monitor their progress.However, some challenges remain.Limited internet access, insufficient technological resources and online distractions can affest learning.Additionally,excessive dependence on digital tools may reduce face-to-face communication.

Therefore,digital platforms should be combined with classroom activities,teacher guidance and practical communication.

5. Methodology

This study uses a descriptive and analytical approach based on a review of academic literature, educational reports and selected digital learning platforms.Duolingo,BBC Learning English,Quizlet and Google Classroom are examined as examples of educational tools.

The analysis focuses on their contribution to listening, speaking, reading and writing, as well as learner motivation, accessibility, independent learning and feedback.

6. Results and Discussion

The analysis indicates that digital learning platforms provide useful opportunities for developing English language skills.Audio and video materials support listening, interactive exercises improve vocabulary and grammar, online communication encourages speaking, and electronic texts rupport reading and writing.

Research by Tommerdahl,Dragonflame and Olsen(2024) also examines the effectiveness of commercially available mobile language-learning applications and highlights their potential contribution to forign language education.

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However,successful learning depends not only on technology but also on regular practice, clear learning objectives and teacher support.Digital platforms are most effective when they are integrated into a well-organized educational process.

Conclusion

In conclusion,digital learning platforms have become valuable tools in modern English language education.They provide flexible learning opportunities ,increase student motivation and support the development od listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.

Platforms such as Duolingo,BBC Learning English,Quizlet ang Google Classroom make language learning more interactive and accessible.Despite certain limitations,they can significantly support students' language development when used appropriately.

Therefore, combining digital resources with traditional teaching methods and practical communication is an effective approach to improving English language education.

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