USING ONLINE APP FOR TEACHING ENGLISH SPEAKING

Djuraeva Mokhira Tursunovna
Senior Teacher at English Language in Primary Education Department
Uzbek State World Language University

Annotation
Teaching speaking skills to intermediate or advanced language students is relatively easy. many teachers may get stuck when it comes to planning lessons aiming at getting their students to speak, where the students are beginners. the truth is that many language teachers take it for granted their beginner students can't actually take part in a conversation because of the lack in vocabulary and knowledge of the grammar. well, that is a myth.

Keywords: grammar, online free apps, teaching methods, communicative methods.

Introduction

Nearly everyone in the modern world now has a smart phone. Whether you have a top of the range one, a $50 model, or grandpa Joe's second-hand one, there are choices out there which allow everyone to carry a phone with them. Anyone who has a phone is able to download literally thousands of English language learning apps to learn English. Similarly, TEFL teachers can download thousands of apps to teach English. Most of these English language apps have free versions and the better ones usually give full access each month for about the cost of a cup of coffee. Whether you are a child or adult, learner or teacher, there are so many apps out there which can change the way you learn or teach forever.

As teachers of English, we are always looking for ways to improve the quality of our ESL lessons. Making them more interesting for students (and ourselves!) is important for learner motivation and language acquisition. Most importantly, we should be thinking of ways to help the language we teach stick. We shouldn't have the situation where millions of people have years of learning English in the classroom, but can't speak any English. We English teachers are the solution and using English apps to teach English is something we should be doing. Integrating technology into our English classes is now a necessity if we are to achieve our goals as teachers.

Most English language apps have taken a lot of time and big financial investment to develop. This isn't amateur stuff and lots of thought and curriculum development has gone into these apps by experts. Using apps to teach English

gives the students something visual to look at, engaging them and helping them do language tasks which the traditional classroom often doesn't offer.

If you are teaching the time, many language apps allow kids to move the hands of the clock or adjust a digital clock. Kids have to speak into the phone in English to say the correct answer to move onto the next level. If you're teaching vocabulary, there are English language apps where students must match vocabulary items with words or can race against friends to get the highest score. Children find this engaging and motivating. Learning English through apps captivates the mind and allows students more one-to-one time.

Most English language apps come with the ability for the student to listen to native English-speaking pronunciation. This isn't often an option for students who may have non-native speaking English teachers. Some of the students are lucky and have a teacher with a neutral accent, others aren't so lucky and their teacher might have a heavy non-native accent. When this teacher is their only model to hear and learn from, then they are at an immediate disadvantage. Using apps to learn English and model pronunciation provides a cheap and reliable fix. Students can listen to sentences over and over in their own time, repeat and practice.

Many English teachers set homework to their students as part of the normal routine. Students are expected to go home, turn to a particular page before...yes, you've guessed it filling in the blanks. The teacher then spends an hour each day marking this homework before repeating the very same mundane cycle the next day. The kids are bored and the teacher is bored. What is the point of this?

Teachers can use apps to set homework tasks and make doing homework something memorable, enjoyable and something the kids look forward to. Ask students to review that lesson's vocabulary, watch a short video or preview tomorrow's content. There are many apps out there which allow the teacher to make sure that the videos or content have been watched too, so the teacher can know who has used the app to do their English homework and who hasn't. Integrating technology into English classes and using apps to teach English needn't only be confined to the classroom. Using English apps to teach English allows the classroom and the home to be connected. The Fun English app for teachers is one such example of an app to teach English with a full management system for English teachers.

When many people hear the phrase 'AI', they think of some science-fiction apocalyptic world many years in the future. This isn't true; AI is happening right

here, right now. AI is going to be a big part of learning English and this change will be permanent.

This is nothing to fear though. The simple truth is that there are not enough human teachers to fill the void in the number of people wanting to learn English. By 2025, it is estimated that 2 billion people will be learning English. There just aren't enough English teachers to go around.

AI is already here in language teaching. There is a Chinese company called LiuLiShuo (fluent speaking) - it's in Chinese by the way, which uses AI to listen to your responses to questions, how fast you need to think before responding and how accurately to pronounce words tracked against a database of native-English speaking samples. Your utterances are given a score out of 100 and the app selects a new question based on how you did previously. Test it out yourself, you'll be amazed at the AI in language teaching available right now.

5 Best Apps to Learn English
1. Rosetta Stone – Most versatile app
This award-winning English language learning app teaches vocabulary and English grammar. Rosetta Stone includes lessons on pronunciation so you can improve your English accent. You can also download audio lessons to learn offline.

2. FluentU – Best media-based app
This app sources English-language videos from the real world — including news, music videos and commercials — to help you learn English. Interactive captions allow you to tap any word and see more information about it.

3. Hello English – Best app for intermediate learners
If you already understand the basics but want to improve your English, this app is for you. This media-rich app to learn English. Hello English starts with a language test, then serves up English lessons based on your test results. Hello English supports learners with 23 native languages and lets you play games, watch videos and listen to audiobooks, too.

4. Duolingo – Most fun app
This personalized English-learning app turns studying into a game. Earn virtual coins to unlock new levels and spend them on fun upgrades. An animated owl keeps you company and encourages you as you learn. When you have questions, get help from fellow students inside the app using the Duolingo message boards.

5. HelloTalk – Best conversational app

The best way to practice your English is by having a conversation with a native English speaker. And this free app lets you do just that. Chat with English speakers from around the world via text, voice recording, voice call, video call and even drawings. You can also ask questions to the community and get feedback from native speakers.

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