Use of Technology for Teaching Speaking Skills in ELT Classrooms of Pakistan

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This research paper would study the technology used in modern language classrooms of Pakistan to teach speaking skills and point out the best possible and innovative uses of these technologies in the language classroom for Pakistani teachers and students alike.

It has been observed that students coming to Pakistani universities for higher studies in diverse disciplines are from various regions of the country. These students are not only coming from variety of regions rather from different streams of schooling. Most of them are weak in speaking skills.

The main objective of this paper would be on improvising the speaking skills of the multilingual, multidiscipline Pakistani university students. However, many universities still are not equipped with the high-tech technology which can support both teachers and students in learning English language.

The scope of this study is to make the students would learn speaking skills with activities given by teacher like word games, discussions, role plays, etc and utilize and integrate the activities with internet resources like The Free Dictionary.Com or Movies, Live TV Channels, Audio podcasts(latest technology) of BBC.

The methodology of this research paper is holistic in nature i.e. including both qualitative and quantitative data gathered from observation, literature review and survey conducted on teachers linked with ELT. The survey comprised of fifteen questions, was the main source of collecting opinions of fifty teachers associated with ELT at language centers, colleges and universities at bachelors’ and masters’ level. In some cases the teachers were teaching diploma or certificate classes which have students of all ages eager to improve spoken English in short time.

The results indicated technology as a positive tool both in and out of ELT classrooms. Most of the students lack exposure to latest technologies for learning speaking skills. The weak areas in speaking skills were also showed for improvement. Moreover, teachers also need training to generate activities integrated with technologies.

The study suggests various novel techniques or tools which yet either have not been employed or less employed in the ELT classrooms of Pakistan. They can make the students learn speaking skills in English language with a whole new range of activities for improvement in their output, both inside and outside the class. The ELT teachers will also learn to integrate speaking activities with latest technologies.

**Keywords:** Innovative, Multilingual, Multidiscipline, High-Tech, Holistic

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