

## TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT USED IN ENGLISH LESSONS (TO IMPROVE READING SKILL)

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### ANNOTATION

Today, foreign language skills are becoming an integral part of vocational education. Due to the high level of cooperation with foreign partners in various fields, the demand for language learning is high. In modern society, foreign languages are becoming an important part of vocational education. Such knowledge is first acquired by people in schools, colleges, high schools, and later in institutes, training courses, or by familiarizing themselves with basic information sets that help them learn a foreign language independently.

**Key words:** *foreign language skills, reading lessons, methods, modern methods of teaching foreign languages, smart class equipment.*

Today, there are many collections of study materials for people with different levels of language skills. Success in achieving this goal depends on the practical methods and skills of teachers. The ability to use information technology and modern teaching methods helps to quickly grasp new materials [7]. By combining different methods, a teacher is able to solve specific curricula. In this regard, teachers and students should get acquainted with modern methods of teaching foreign languages. As a result, they develop the skills to choose the most effective ways to achieve their goals. Using a variety of teaching and learning methods can be effective. Teaching takes place in small steps and is based on the student's existing knowledge system [6]. As time goes on, innovation in every field increases. There are many different styles of language teaching. When it comes to teaching English, the learner's ability and level, depending on their age, gives good results in a step-by-step way. Students are divided into groups based on elementary education, intermediate education, and advanced education. A special program will be developed by the teacher for each stage.

Reading and writing are two of the most fundamental skills for students to learn, however, many ed tech tools segregate the two, focusing on just reading or writing. When you combine the two together, into one app or tech tool, you get a powerful combination that prepares your students for success. These five tech tools are some of the only ones available that combine these two successfully, providing an engaging and educational experience for students. Bring them into your classroom and empower your students to read more and write better.

#### *Kidblog*

While reading blog posts aren't considered a traditional method of reading, it's one that's becoming more and more popular for everyone, kids and adults alike. Allowing students to both read and write within the blogging medium not only gets them excited to learn but prepares them for a digital future. Many writers in your classroom may end up as professional bloggers or web content producers, and this classroom experience may be what steers them in that direction.

With Kidblog, a safe and simple blogging platform for the classroom, students can write their own blog posts, spend time reading their peers' posts, and comment on them to start a discussion. This is a great tool for free reading and writing time; use these 50 creative blog prompts to spark your students' creativity.

What makes it special: Unlike other blogging platforms, Kidblog is completely education-based. As such, it's integrated with Google Drive and Google Apps for Education. It also comes integrated with Common Core standards, lessons and unit plans, and allows students to create their own personalized themes.

#### *Whoo's Reading*

Whooo's Reading inspires students to read and write every single day. Being able to earn Wisdom Coins and Badges, and "like" and comment on their peers' responses in their Facebook-like newsfeed, motivates students to read more than ever before.

With a variety of comprehension question options, including the book review, question response or blog post, students are also excited to write. Not to mention, all of these writing options encourage students to use higher-level thinking. Other important writing features include:

#### *Teacher scoring*

- Immediate and private teacher feedback
- The option to re-write their response for a higher score
- Speech-to-text input option

What makes it special: With this tool, teachers can track student progress, mastery of standards, reading comprehension and writing proficiency. They can also set reading and response goals to keep students on track with their independent reading.

#### *PocketPhonics*

This app, geared toward younger students who are just learning to read and write, does a great job of combining the two in an engaging way. Letter sounds are taught in small groups and include audio and physical cues for learning—students will hear the sounds and can also trace the letters with their finger or a stylus.

The app includes a spelling game and sends weekly update emails for parents and teachers.

What makes it special: Independent research found that students learn nine times faster using PocketPhonics compared to a classroom lesson, as cited on their website.

#### *Bookopolis*

While this student-only reading website isn't directly promoting, nor does it require, student writing, it still encourages it in one special way: students can write book reviews that are seen by their peers in the classroom and around the country. This review writing is what leads to more reading.

Education professionals will agree that reviews from students' peers are the most influential. With Bookopolis, students have access to thousands of these reviews, in addition to the "Book Quest," which takes them on a journey to discover their next favorite book.

What makes it special: With Bookopolis, where students are writing reviews that can be seen by students outside of their classroom, students are given an authentic audience to write for.

#### *Gerty*

This e-reader, iOS app is perfect for encouraging students to both read and write on their own time, as opposed to being assigned it. With Gerty, students are able to open ebooks in EPUB format and access a variety of unique features that encourage them to become better readers and writers.

Some of these features include:

- A built-in journal, for writing thoughts while reading
- A timeline for adding definitions they want to learn or look up
- One-tap Dropbox access
- In-book reading timers
- Sound effects

What makes it special: There are dozens of features that can make a significant impact in the classroom, but one that's especially helpful for students is the daily reading and journaling reminder.

These are a small sampling of a small group of tech tools and apps that bring reading and writing together in an effective and engaging way. Consider bringing them into your classroom, empowering your students to read and write as much as possible. See more recommended classroom ed tech tools here.

#### *11 Technology Tools for Reading Classrooms*

Kahoot – try it to review literary elements (more tips)

Seesaw – try it to for a reflection on reading

Spark Video – try it for a book trailer

Padlet – try it for a KWL pre-reading activity

Today's Meet – try it for a read aloud backchannel (more tips)

Explain Everything – try it for strategy tutorials

Nearpod – try it for annotating text

New York Times VR – try it to provide background knowledge (more tips)

Spark Page – try it to publish book recommendations (more tips)

Buncee – try it for shareable reading responses (more tips)

Popplet – try it to organize thinking

Spark Post – try it for a virtual exit slip (more tips)

#### *Virtual Learning Tools*

The shift to remote learning had many teachers scrambling to find effective ways to share lessons, deliver instruction, and allow students to collaborate.

What image comes to your mind when someone says smart classroom? A class full of bright and wise students? Well! That's not true. Smart classrooms are equipped with advanced educational equipment like interactive boards, projectors, and visualizers. The digital transformation has not only helps teachers in preparing dynamic multi-media lessons but also changed the perspective of students towards studying. With the introduction of such digital classrooms, learning has become more of a fun and less of a burden.

Smart class tools have become a success in today's digital era because visually attractive methods of teaching which engage the audio-visual senses and are proven to be an effective way of learning. Listed below is some of the best smart class equipment playing pivotal role in a transitional learning experience:

### **INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARDS**

The transformation of traditional blackboards from digital classrooms without interactive whiteboards is incomplete. A teacher can teach any subject with touch-sensitive multimedia surface by using their finger, pen or stylus. Interactive boards help teachers in engaging students with visual media and modern lessons.

### **PROJECTORS**

Projector is a portable solution that helps convert any surface (whiteboards, existing projector screens, or wall surface) into an interactive surface. Smart projectors help teachers in assisting sessions with presentations, videos, and other visual elements by connecting them with their laptop or computer.

### **INTERACTIVE LED/LCD PANELS**

Kids love learning from interactive screens, whether it is a television, computer screen or a video console. Digital learning becomes fun with 2D and 3D animations, audio and video presentations, and graphics. A smart classroom equipped with interactive LED or LCD panels help teachers in planning their lessons around visual media. Interactive LED panel is popular smart class equipment in college.

## DIGITAL PODIUM

A digital podium is an advanced lecture stand that is well-equipped with various media components which enables an uninterrupted learning session. Some of the devices attached with it are for public addressing including speaker, amplifier, and mic. These podiums also come with integrated UPS for a lecture recording, keyboard drawer and continuous power supply. In short, a must-have for lecture halls and auditoriums.

## SPEAKERS & WIRELESS MICROPHONES

With speakers in the smart classrooms, there is no room left for questions like ‘can you hear me back there?’ Modern speakers ensure that teacher’s voice is audible to the last row and no one misses out on important points. A wireless microphone eliminates dealing with long coils of wires. They also let you be more mobile and allow you to be hands-free.

How to maintain smart class equipment?

With the growing popularity of smart class equipment, it has become important to keep up with their maintenance to make sure that the equipment is fully functional at all times and doesn’t break apart when you need it the most. Here are some tips to upkeep the smart class equipment maintenance:

- Monitor the equipment systematically. Schedule timely performance checks to identify glitches early.
- Run virus checks on computers regularly since recovering from a corrupt system is a costly affair and leads to data loss as well.
- Clean equipment on a routine basis to increase their lifespan.
- Maintain the coordination on addition or deletion of any software. Keep the software updated at all times.
- Record problem logs in each classroom to track performance and usage.
- Monitor the security of classrooms to make sure that you don’t lose precious smart class equipment to mischief.
- Ensure that the equipment is turned off at the end of the day to improve their performance and reduce power bills.
- Execute requests for repairs of computers, network problem to the concerned staff or management.

In conclusion, modern language teaching is aimed at shaping a more cultured individual who has the skills to self-analyze and systematize new knowledge. Innovative methods are an integral part of modernizing the entire system. In this way, teachers can become acquainted with the most advanced approaches and then combine them and use them in their work to achieve significant growth in the education system. Many organizations are moving to a new level, using multimedia capabilities to send and receive information. The use of computers and other devices determines the success of the whole educational process.

Adequate attention should be paid to the development of reading skills and social resilience in training. In addition, the success of any lesson in education depends in many ways on the proper organization of the lesson. The lesson should be based on the creative collaboration of teacher and student. Only then will students be able to think independently and develop their will.

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