SIMPLIFICATION AND INTENSIFICATION OF LANGUAGE ACQUISITION WITH THE HELP OF TECHNOLOGY

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Abstract: This article discusses the role of technology in facilitating language learning. Each aspect of language acquisition is covered step- by-step with rational statistical evidence of the possibilities offered by technology. Divided into three parts, technological opportunities are discussed using different methods and researches.
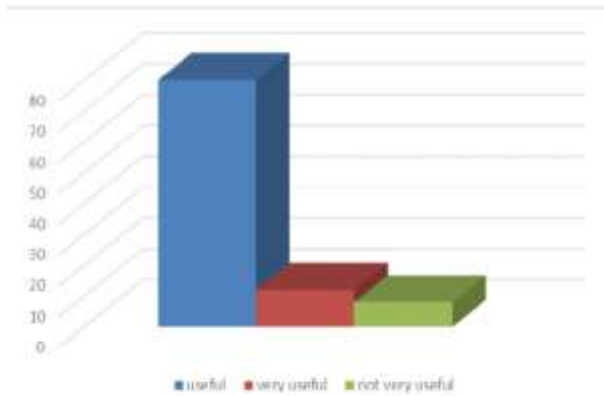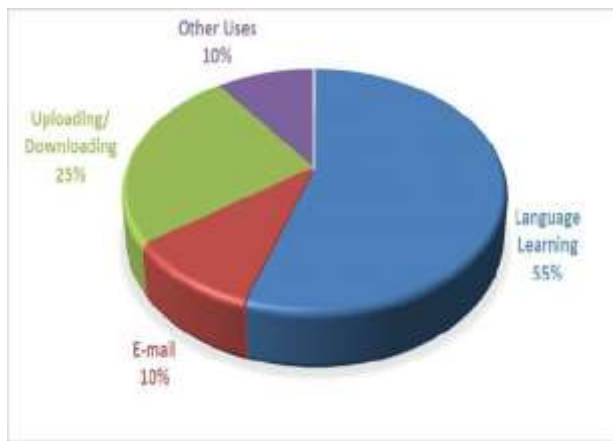
Key words: language acquisition, language learning apps, multimedia, online recourses.

INTRODUCTION. In our contemporary world people are eager to learn new languages no matter how old they are. Some language learners find this process difficult while it is uncomplicated for others. Over the years, people have employed various methods in order to facilitate language acquisition. At present, technology is estimated to be the most efficient means of learning non-native tongues. It is what by learners can fulfill their educational needs. In order to show the usefulness of technology clearly, it is preferred to prioritize opportunities presented. Here the most essential ones are provided:

1. Access to recourses
2. Language learning apps
3. Multimedia contents

**Methods and obtained results. Access to recourses**

Thanks to the advanced technology, everyone has their own electronic tools (mobile phones, laptops, and others) giving them the chance to connect to the Internet where a wide range of learning materials can be provided. So, current people easily find no matter what they look for, compared to the past when most had no choice but to go libraries or buy them from the store. The conventional methods of language learning, such as textbooks and classroom instruction, have been complemented and in many cases, replaced by innovative online tools and resources. Learners will have an access to language courses, materials, and resources from anywhere in the world, as long as they have an internet connection. This case, in turn, leads to reduce time spending and makes it easy to obtain the information sought by them. According to Azizeh Chalak's statistics in 2022 majority of respondents (55%) participated in the questionnaire used the Net sources in order to learn English language (picture 1) and 70% of them found the materials useful (picture 2).

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The percentage of Internet usage by respondents (p1)
The respondents' attitude towards the
usefulness of the Net in language learning. (p2)

Moreover, after the pandemic most people got used to that process since it was the safest way. Back in 2021, 27% percent of E.U citizens aged 16 to 74 informed having taken an online courses or using online materials ,with an increase of 23 % compared to 2020.
 As Jie Li said "learners' interest in learning materials, teaching methods, and learning facilities will directly affect their initiative and enthusiasm in learning" and it leads them to reach language usage faster. Here Jie Li's table illustrating female and male learners' interests towards English online platforms is given (picture3). The frequency of learners using the online English learning platforms is also investigated, and the results are shown by him in the table (picture 4).
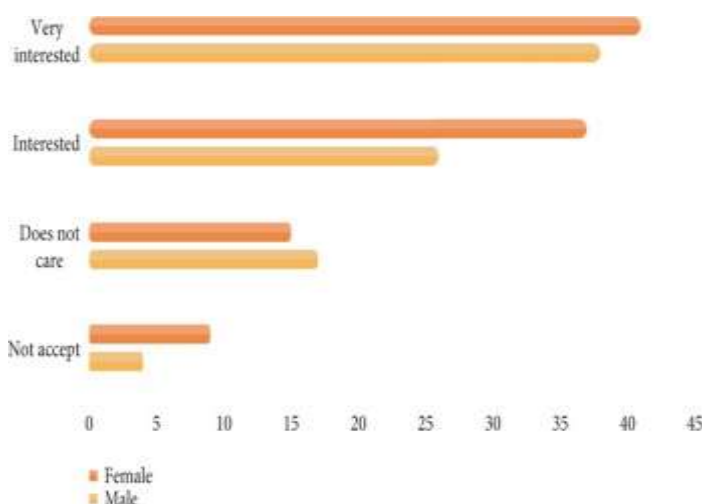
Frequency of usage	Number of male users	Number of female users
Three times a day or more	43	55
Once or twice a day	26	38
Four to six times a week	17	11
One to three times a week	4	3

Learners' interest in English online learning platforms (p3)
The frequency of learners' use of online English learning platforms (p4).

Five researchers of university of Negeri Makassar conducted a research and gave information about the effect of usage of online platforms on language proficiency. They indicated that the impact of online resources on students' language learning was strongly positive. It was due to students' view that online resources provide a variety of materials that helped students to learn a foreign language, they declared. According to their perception the students believe that learning was not boring as well as they experienced that learning by accessing online resources makes them feel comfortable.

Language learning apps

Language learning apps play a crucial role in simplifying the process of language acquisition. Learners will have a variety of opportunities because of such online programs. Here is how they contribute to make language learning more accessible and achievable:

1. Bite-sized lessons: In most cases, Apps specialized in teaching foreign languages break down the process into manageable chunks (bite-sized lessons) in which people must focus on a narrow range of topics or skills. In this way they can make a progress step by step, building their knowledge and confidence.

2. Structured curriculum: Learners can be guided from beginner to advanced levels by structured curricula provided by these apps. They include essential language components like vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, which are generally acquired easily.

3. Spaced repetition: Spaced repetition is frequently employed by language learning apps in order to promote long-term retention of new information. By practicing, learners will be able to strengthen their knowledge.

We can analyze the results of usage of such apps with the help of some researches. One of them is belonged to Loewen, Isbell and Sporn (2020) from the University of Michigan. 83 undergraduates learning Spanish using Babbel for 10 minutes a day more than 12 weeks were the participants of that research. Most participants noticed improvement in their grammar and vocabulary while about 60% percent of them made progress in their oral speech using Babbel.

According to Ana Nino's research "73% of the students thought the main usefulness of these apps is their helping increase vocabulary. The portability and freedom of use for extra practice at any time and at the students' own pace was regarded as the second most important practicality, followed by help memorizing (41%), reading comprehension (32%), and the fact that it makes revision fun (39%)"(picture5).

STATEMENTS	RESPONSES	%
Helps increase vocabulary	154	73
Provides resources for extra practice at any time and at my own pace	100	48
Helps memorizing words, phrases, genders, conjugations, etc.	86	41
Helps improve reading comprehension	68	32
Makes revision easier/fun	82	39
Helps improve pronunciation and intonation	70	33
Helps sentence building	69	33
Helps improve oral comprehension	68	32
Helps improve grammar accuracy	67	32
Helps me write properly	44	21

Usefulness of mobile apps for language learning (p5)

Multimedia contents

Multimedia is what includes text, graphics, sound, video and animation supplied to the user with the help electronic devices. "The name "multimedia" is derived from "multi-" which means many, numerous, and "media," which are a medium for information delivery and presentation, including text, graphics, speech, images, and music"(Gabriel Barbulet, 2023) .Nowadays multimedia is ,also, known to be one of the most common ways of teaching students foreign languages . Here we can analyze what sources multimedia can provide language learners (picture 6).

The demonstration of sources (p6)

Multimedia contents such as images , infographics and videos, which give people a chance to have visual representations of grammar, vocabulary and contexts , help them to associate new information with visual imagery and simply memorisation process (Mathukorn, 2015; Rahimi & Allahyari, 2019). Al-Seghayer (2001) conducted a research on the use of multimedia with printed text, pictures with printed text, and printed text alone to improve students' vocabulary knowledge. It is demonstrated that the usage of multimedia with printed text is far more effective in enhancing students' vocabulary knowledge than the usage of pictures with printed text. While applying multimedia, the students can remember new words more than using pictures. Moreover, learners have opportunities of finding authentic audio clips and videos in multimedia resourses which, in turn, shows the usage of languages in real-life situations. By that opportunity, language students can realize cultural nuances of languages and accelerate applying them in real-world communication. Students can have an access on multimedia contents with different types of devices such as tablets, smartphones, and computers. No extra effort is needed in terms of time and location.

In conclusion, technology can be used in a variety of ways in the language learning process and provides convenience to learners. The application of technological tools to language learning facilitates this process and increases the enthusiasm of learners.

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