

# Goodbye Textbook, Hello Ipad: Accelerating Effective Language Learning Strategies for English Language Learners

Chinta Praveen Kumar

Associate Professor of English, Vardhaman College of Engineering, Shamshabad, Hyderabad

**Abstract-** The paper is designed after attending and presenting series of presentations and conferences. It draws attention of many people who have similar feelings on English language. Today, classrooms are filled with flexible rules of teaching curriculum. The present papers also assess how language learners need to enhance their learning abilities and source of material to achieve language learning goals. Despite improvement of language skills of major such as, LSRW, it's time to find other features of language skills such as correctness, accuracy, fluency and word power. Though speaking and writing are productive skills listening and reading core abilities to identify learners themselves find to choose freely. Self instructional material is primary source of language learning. Since English learning language (ELL) material in the form of textbook linked to the classroom and distinctly lack of update from the modern context. Considering Indian learner's English usage and the quality of the language test, material production, this paper advocates teaching English through using text books is outdated. Then, it highlights the significance of the self instructional material is found to be main tool of learning which is of course, remarkable infotainment these days.

In addition to the above objectives it also discusses pedagogical implementation of the learning of the language in the classroom context to create better curriculum course.

**Index Terms-** self instructional material, Indian learners, gadget used learning.

## I. INTRODUCTION

In the world of liberalization, speaking English has increasingly become a common medium of communication. The number of people using of English as medium of communication have been increased considerably in the present world of globalization. The increase is in the supply of the material in the form of text book. Do these modern learners really feel at home by such kind of instruction? These are indeed inevitable questions to the teacher of English. What are the other source of material available in terms of learning English and what is a better way of learning English? These are some investigations and survey being done in Vardhaman College of Engineering, Hyderabad, India.

Perhaps it might be right to start with the college students who really dejected with outdated irrelevant textbook of English. Many complain it is a burden of aimless learning because many textbooks in India curriculum are written by non-native speakers of English. The present learners need freedom of learning by

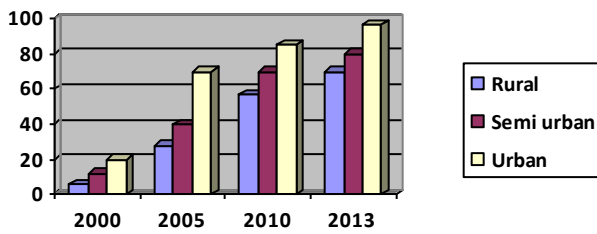
themselves. In due respect to the learners nature of learning, this is how new method of instruction advocated, for instance, i-Pad. It is introduced in this paper as a language perspective.

## II. LEARNING STRATEGIES OF ENGLISH

The four language skills are deemed to be most important in language acquisition. The key language skill however is that of speaking. Text book is a primary tool of any teacher in the classroom. Learners are usually being mastered the English language by writing vigorously specially courtiers like India where English is positioned second language. This method constantly fails to achieve learning of target language. Classroom is the boundary and textbook is a dictator in the hands of fellow teachers. This is how leads to an unnatural method of instruction. It's obvious that internet provides us with a data of information. It is regret to say that curriculum in the teaching of English has not been integrated with technology in the classroom. I pad is worth using inside and outside the classroom. The major challenges occur in present era when English is assigned to be studied in the form of textbook across Indian institutions. Though English is a compulsory subject in schools and colleges, considerable, results are not shown. The objective, methodology, principles, and curriculum design need to be redefined.

## III. LEARNING AND THE WEB

Students are learning from the web directly. Any kind of information has harnessed the web. Its resources in many ways benefit the learner. Internet based information is indistinguishable from normal textbook. Every institution has to understand through importance of learning through web. It is a collection of readymade source of information. Grabbing a small gadget like iPad would be a start up for leaning through fun which of course takes just eight seconds to start up to boot applications. Using of technology would definitely leverage one day. Technology contributes to excellence which to systematic learning excellently. Technology is more accessible these days compared to the previous technology a decade ago. The following chart shows survey of users of technology for learning English in Vardhaman College of Engineering Hyderabad.



The above chart displays percentage of students using technology from 2000 through 2013.








Students and their learning styles are different today because of easy access to information. The combination of teaching and widespread access to internet would better equip to capture information. The world moved from a dial up network to a broadband network and it has further moved to a cloud-based administrative dashboard. The ubiquity of web source information is absolutely congruous with current trends of teaching, especially with ELLs. Links have now become a major part of any information. There are obvious ways now that learners access and use information in the relevant context. Most often learners enjoy variety of information that has been presented in different approach.









#### IV. ROLE OF IPAD IN ELL’S PROGRESS

The advent of iPad has given learners freedom of listening, recording, reading text online, referring other sources, and most importantly looking up thesaurus-dictionary, writing mock as tests, sharing information so on and so forth. The learner has to build up sense of responsibility for his own work because craftsmanship comes through constant practice; the learner shall also have a sense of growing in the language. The usual role

textbook centered classroom precisely do the same work at the same time however, language comes through emotional involvement rather than logical thinking apparently. iPad has created a platform for learners to record their voice, check pronunciation, and listen to native speaking feature audio files which can constantly played and replayed several times to estimate evaluation of progress in fluency, pronunciation, and intonation in their recorded speech. The real teacher can help the learner by providing parallel lines of learning with self exploration. The simple dramatization of language classroom would not provide any opportunity of real learning with lively experience with such gadget like iPad. Learners share their emotions and experiences with their friends imitating language syntax of native speakers’ sentence pattern instantly. This is would them self explanatory for language exploration by group dynamics of learning through sharing. The major and simplest aid in the classroom is the blackboard, yet many English teachers seldom use it except for writing vocabulary. The modern electronic gadget like iPad making people pocket-ready intelligent speaker. A good deal of the language is still beyond classroom or textbooks. Learners will witness the situation and accordingly this may create an opportunity to grasp language with right expression. The same situation can b played frequently so that learners would identify themselves with corresponding events and practice with feature plays of electronic gadget.

The following brief introduction to iPad Applications for ELL with due respect and courtesy Sandra Pires - E-Guide, L.Estrada and H.Parris-Fitzpatrick

Icon	App Title	App Description
	iBooks	iBooks includes the iBookstore, where you can download for free as well as purchase books. Features include bookmarking, highlighting, annotating, and speak selection
	Bamboo Pape	Bamboo Paper provides you with the ability to create virtual notebooks and share your ideas visually with handwritten notes, sketches or doodles.
	Dragon Dictation	Dragon Dictation is an easy-to-use voice recognition application that allows you to speak and instantly see your text.
	Explain Everything	Explain Everything is a design tool that lets you annotate, animate, and narrate explanations and presentations. Create interactive lessons, activities, assessments, and tutorials.
	iBrainstorm	iBrainstorm is a multi-device collaboration tool that gives up to four people the ability to create ideas on their iPhones and flick them over to the iPad.
	Speak It!	Speak It! provides advanced text to speech with multitasking features.
	ePub Bud	ePub Bud is a clearing house for eBooks, but also offers you the ability to write or digitize your own books.

	Google Translate	Translate words and phrases between more than 60 languages using Google translate for IOS. Speak your phrases and hear the corresponding translations
	iTranslate	iTranslate translates words and whole words in sentences in 52 languages, and use text to speech with 43 voices in 16 languages.
	SAT Vocabulary Visuals and Audios by Vocab Ahead	SAT Vocabulary Visuals and Audios includes unique illustrations for thousands of SAT words and explains their meanings using audios from professional narrators. Translate words in Spanish, French, Chinese and 50 other languages.
	Word A Day Visuals and Audio by Vocab Ahead	Word A Day Visuals and Audios increases knowledge of vocabulary through humorous words, images and audio for each word.
	World Atlas	National Geographic World Atlas HD provides users with high resolution, press-ready images. (HD by National Geographic)
	Dictionary.com	Dictionary.com delivers trusted reference content from Dictionary.com and Thesaurus.com. No internet connection is needed to search words.
	EasyBib	EasyBib creates accurate MLA, APA, and Chicago style citations in seconds by scanning a book bar code or by typing the name of the book.
	Wordventure	Wordventure teaches students parts of speech while creating fun stories.

English has become the powerful medium of communication for all social interaction and now that it is considered honourable excellence. As a part of quality teaching for ELL educational institutions in India have been looking into instructional practices with closer observation. But research is ended with survey; the real attention is yet to come, in comparison with advanced countries that just started using English to prosper quickly because their curriculum in all educational institution paid attention in the impact of learning with technique. Interest and curiosity of learning the language is created by language itself because when people working in any organization and studying in any educational institution would rather find sophisticated lifestyle of some people who primarily use English as medium of communication with unknown people though English is not national language. It is foolish to think that English is for elite people. This stimulation has to be tapped immediately and learners to have be given proper channel to explore in language. What is the best approach to learn English Pronunciation, Vocabulary, and Fluency? People who do not understand modern techniques and facilities of language increasingly fail to achieve goals. There are 96% of graduate student community using gadget out of which hardly 48% are using gadget to help themselves finding ways to improve their English. (A survey conducted at Engineering Colleges in Hyderabad 2013) Institutions and teachers are not just enough to support major changes in the linguistic diversity of any country. Indeed, techniques to improve content words in the language because it is not just language that most often they struggle. Consequently the teacher is blamed as not being taught well. In this paper, the argument is constructed by laying the rules of ELL pattern of instructional practice.

#### V. PEDAGOGICAL IMPLEMENTATION

Use of internet source material in ESL classroom is no longer a new idea. The remarkable issue is that educators are now faced is how to efficiently integrate gadgets like iPad technology based informative machine into content based classroom pedagogy. The present survey based information is a review of iPad technology uses appropriate for ELL in content area classes. There are several methods, applications of iPad that address the appropriate integration of various programmes and activities that capture authentic, practical and meaningful representation of effective content for ELL. It is true to say that often students face difficulties in mastering English because a variety of cognitive and linguistic imbalance. However, the use of gadget would address some challenges shifting pedagogical instructions from so called methods to hands on experience tools will enhance teaching approach that makes a new strategy to ELLs' learning more successful. This could definitely remarkable achievement if introduced to undergraduate level of students because of their critical approach of usage, for example, reading online information in a language classroom, electronic devices would help their craftsmanship. Teacher can also assign a web-quest activity individually where learner discovers, explores, solves puzzles, and finds necessary information instantly. Technology-enriched material both text and mp3 files related to language allow ELL to explore in language competitively any time. All the electronically based activities will scaffold with learner's abilities reaching the target language acquisition effectively. Thus learners' autonomy has to be encourage by including pedagogical implementation of curriculum. Any judicious expertise will understand systematic

working nature of teaching plan. Therefore, the use of such handy gadget reflects actual learning.

## VI. CONCLUSION

“conversational fluency is often acquired to a functional level within about two years of initial exposure to the second language, whereas at least five years is usually required to catch up to native speakers in academic aspects of second language” Cummins, 200,p.76. Visual as well as audio information is provided incorporating technology and now it’s called better portable-technology enabled gadgets would bridge the gap between native and non native expressional English. Gadget like iPad is an excellent tool for learning English lessons. There are many benefits of an interactive whiteboard over a traditional chalkboard in a classroom likewise there are many benefits of an iPad over a over-used textbook. Through the use of these types of technology in English classroom, learners can increase the level of comprehension grasping the four language skills (LSRW) which further help into Cognitive Academic language Proficiency (CALP). It is not just listening and reading that always focused over its usage. Creative writing with immediate grammar check as well as error correction with self explanatory benefit the learner at his own pace. Learners may create their own stories, post it. Discussion forum will create a platform where learners would involve actively for being engaged in academic and social English whenever possible. Expertise of English would always “encourage students to collaborate with others and participate in experiential learning experiences” Lacina, 2004, p.114. ELLs are particularly learn from the reinforcement of constant listening to native speakers’ English, watching feature movies, and pictures.

Technology offers multi faced resources to improve one’s own communication skills to explore the language world. It is profound opportunity to see the synergy of learning the language by hearing it, speaking it, writing it, and reading it simultaneously. It is the best way to engage learners in developing language skills. Learners spend more time out of the classroom, predominantly on online; they pore much time over sharing information usually in English language. This is to be synchronized into academic purpose where learners have to be given a academic networking sites.

Until recently, only a few computer related English language learning software have been available. However, they

do not support virtual leaning all the time. Now that, world of ELL advanced using easier, user-friendly, cost effective, portable electronic gadget with English language software applications are changing the way of learning style of English with more fun.

## REFERENCES

- [1] Larsen-Freeman, D., & Long, M. H. (1991). An introduction to second language acquisition research. New York: Longman.
- [2] Canale, M. & Swain, M. (1980). Theoretical bases of communicative approaches to second-language teaching and testing. *Applied Linguistics*, 1 (1), 1-47
- [3] Peterson, M. (1997). Language teaching and networking. *System*, 25 (1), 29-37
- [4] Reeves, T. C. (1992). Research foundations for interactive multimedia. In Promaco Conventions (Ed.), *Proceedings of the International Interactive Multimedia Symposium*, 177-190. Perth, Western Australia, 27-31 January. Promaco Conventions. Available online at <http://www.aset.org.au/conf/iims/1992/reeves.html>
- [5] Levy, M. (1997). *Computer-Assisted Language Learning: Context and Conceptualization*. New York: Oxford.
- [6] Lacina, J. (Winter 2004). Promoting language acquisitions: Technology and English language learners. *Childhood Education*, 81(2), 113-115.
- [7] Cummins, J. (2000). BICS and CALP. (pp. 76-79). Routledge. Retrieved from Education Research Complete database.
- [8] Cummins, J. (1996). Language proficiency, bilingualism and academic achievement. In P. A. Richard-Amato, *Making it happen: Interaction in the second language classroom: From theory to practice* (pp. 429-442). White Plains, NY: Longman.

## Websites

- [1] [www.apple.com/in/ipad/](http://www.apple.com/in/ipad/)
- [2] [www.apple.com/ipad/features/](http://www.apple.com/ipad/features/) - United States
- [3] [books.google.co.in/](http://books.google.co.in/)
- [4] [http://www.ncert.nic.in/new\\_ncert/ncert/rightside/links/pdf/focus\\_group/english.pdf](http://www.ncert.nic.in/new_ncert/ncert/rightside/links/pdf/focus_group/english.pdf)
- [5] <http://www.ipadenglish.net/>
- [6] <http://forums.eslcafe.com/student/> Free discussion board forum for ESL students and teachers
- [7] <http://moodle.com> Allows you to create teacher-hosted classroom discussion boards and online courses.

## AUTHORS

**First Author** – Chinta Praveen Kumar MA, TESOL, M.PHIL, B.ED, Associate Professor of English, Vardhaman College of Engineering, Shamshabad, Hyderabad, Mobile:07382479179