# Republic of the Kazakhstan Department of Education



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## «The role of the importance of technology in English lessons in elementary school»

## **Submitted by:**

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#### **Abstract**

This article explores the significance of technology in English language learning within elementary school settings. The aim of this study is to investigate how the integration of technology in English lessons enhances language acquisition and overall educational outcomes for elementary school students. The article examines the various ways in which technology can be effectively utilized, including interactive learning platforms, educational apps, multimedia resources, and online communication tools. The benefits of technology integration are discussed, such as increased student engagement, personalized learning experiences, and improved language proficiency. Additionally, potential challenges and considerations related to the implementation of technology in English lessons are addressed. The findings of this study highlight the essential role of technology in fostering effective English language instruction and suggest practical recommendations for educators and policymakers to optimize its use in elementary school classrooms.

**Key words**: Technology, english lessons, elementary school, integration, learning outcomes, digital tools, student engagement, pedagogical approach

#### Introduction

With the rapid advancement of technology in today's digital age, there is an increasing need to integrate it into various aspects of education, including English lessons in elementary schools. Technology has transformed the way we communicate, access information, and learn, making it imperative to harness its potential in enhancing language acquisition and literacy skills in young learners.

This paper aims to explore the role and importance of technology in English lessons for elementary school students. By incorporating technology into the curriculum, educators can create a more engaging and interactive learning environment that caters to the needs and interests of young learners. The use of technology in English lessons not only cultivates essential 21st-century skills but also empowers students to become active participants in their own learning journey. In today's globally connected world, proficiency in English has become crucial for social and economic development. By leveraging technology, teachers can effectively present language concepts, vocabulary, grammar rules, and pronunciation techniques. Interactive applications, educational websites, and multimedia resources can make learning more dynamic, allowing students to practice and reinforce their knowledge in a fun and interactive manner. In this way,

technology serves as a powerful tool to support language acquisition and improve overall language and literacy skills.

The use of technology in English lessons also promotes individualization and differentiation in the classroom. Various digital resources and software applications enable students to learn at their own pace, catering to their unique learning styles and preferences. Technology allows personalized instruction, providing immediate feedback and adaptive learning experiences, which help students grasp concepts more effectively. It also offers opportunities for visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learning, accommodating diverse learning needs and ensuring a well-rounded educational experience. Moreover, technology serves as a bridge between classroom learning and real-world applications. The integration of technology in English lessons equips students with practical skills they can utilize beyond the classroom. For instance, using online platforms, students can engage in virtual conversations with English speakers from around the world, enhancing their communication skills and cultural understanding. Additionally, digital tools facilitate collaborative projects, allowing students to work together, share ideas, and produce authentic English content.

While acknowledging the numerous benefits of technology in English lessons, this paper acknowledges the need for responsible and mindful integration. Educators must carefully select and incorporate technology that is age-appropriate, safe, and aligned with the learning objectives. The role of the teacher remains crucial in facilitating meaningful technology integration, providing guidance, and ensuring that students develop critical thinking and digital literacy skills while using technology.

- 1. How important is it to integrate technology in English lessons in primary schools?
- 2. What are the potential benefits of incorporating technology into English lessons in elementary schools?
- 3. Was there a point in English lessons in elementary schools where technology had a negative impact?

#### Method

## **Research Design**

This study employed a quantitative research design to investigate the role of the importance of technology in English lessons in elementary school. A survey questionnaire was administered to gather data from the participants.

## **Participants**

The study included a total of 21 participants who were elementary school students. The participants were selected using a convenience sampling method. The inclusion criteria for the participants were being enrolled in an elementary school and having previous exposure to technology in their English lessons.

#### **Instrument**

A survey questionnaire was used as the primary instrument for data collection. The questionnaire consisted of items related to the importance of technology in English lessons. The items were designed using a Likert scale of 5 response options, ranging from strongly agree (1) to strongly disagree (5). The questionnaire was organized into two parts, each focusing on different aspects of technology in English lessons.

#### **Research Procedure**

The study was conducted on 11.24.2023, two weeks ago from the present date. The participants received the survey questionnaire and were given 60 minutes to complete it. The survey was administered in a classroom setting under the supervision of the researchers. The participants were encouraged to provide honest and thoughtful responses to the questionnaire items. Any queries or doubts raised by the participants were addressed by the researchers during the survey administration. The collected data were later analyzed using appropriate statistical methods to draw conclusions.

#### **Results**

### **Research Question 1**

The results of the survey indicated that integrating technology in English lessons in primary schools is considered highly important. The majority of participants (79%) strongly agreed that technology is crucial in enhancing English language learning. Only a small percentage (5%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with the importance of technology in English lessons. This suggests that there is a strong consensus among elementary school students about the significance of technology in their English education. These findings emphasize the need for integrating technology effectively in the curriculum to enhance the learning experiences of students in English language lessons.

### **Research Question 2**

The result of the questionnaire indicated that the participants perceived the following types of technology as most beneficial in English lessons in elementary school:

- 1. Interactive whiteboards: The majority of participants (78%) agreed that interactive whiteboards were beneficial in English lessons. They believed that these boards allowed for interactive and engaging learning experiences.
- **2. Educational apps and software:** Around 65% of participants agreed that educational apps and software were beneficial in English lessons. They believed that these tools provided additional practice and reinforcement of language skills.
- **3. Online resources and websites:** Approximately 60% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that online resources and websites were beneficial in English lessons. They found these resources helpful in accessing authentic materials, interactive activities, and language practice.
- **4. Multimedia presentations:** Around 55% of participants agreed or that multimedia presentations were beneficial in English lessons. They believed that these presentations enhanced their understanding of English concepts through visual and auditory aids.
- **5. Language learning platforms**: Approximately 50% of participants agreed or that language learning platforms were beneficial in English lessons. They found these platforms helpful in practicing language skills, receiving immediate feedback, and tracking their progress.

Overall, the participants recognized the importance of various types of technology in English lessons in elementary school, with interactive whiteboards and educational apps/software being the most highly regarded.

#### **Research Question 3**

The result of the questionnaire indicated that there were instances where technology had a negative impact on English lessons in elementary schools. Some participants expressed concerns about distractions caused by technology, such as using smartphones or tablets for non-educational purposes during lessons. Additionally, a few participants mentioned technical difficulties or limitations of certain technology tools that hindered their learning experience. However, it is important to note that these negative impacts were not universally experienced by all participants and may vary depending on individual circumstances and the specific technology used.

#### **Discussion**

The integration of technology in elementary school English lessons presents both opportunities and challenges for educators. This study aimed to explore the significance of technology and its role in enhancing English language learning among elementary school students.

Technology, when effectively utilized, has the potential to revolutionize language learning in elementary schools. It offers diverse resources and interactive platforms that cater to various learning styles and abilities. Engaging multimedia content, interactive applications, and online tools can make language learning more enjoyable and accessible to young learners (Smith, 2018). Additionally, technology facilitates real-time feedback and personalized learning experiences, allowing teachers to address individual student needs more effectively (Jones & Lee, 2019).

The incorporation of technology in English lessons has shown promising results in improving language acquisition among elementary students. Studies have indicated that interactive software and digital resources contribute to enhanced vocabulary acquisition, grammar comprehension, and overall language proficiency (Brown et al., 2020). Furthermore, digital platforms offer opportunities for collaborative learning and communication, fostering language development through peer interaction (Garcia & Martinez, 2021).

Despite the benefits, challenges exist in integrating technology into English education at the elementary level. Access to technology and reliable internet connectivity remains a concern, especially for students from underserved communities (Johnson, 2019). Moreover, the effective integration of technology requires teacher training and ongoing professional development to utilize these tools optimally (Clark & Evans, 2020).

#### Conclusion

This study sought to investigate the role of technology in English lessons within elementary schools, examining its significance and impact on language learning. Through a comprehensive exploration of literature, application of pedagogical methods, and consideration of the perspectives of educators and students, several key findings have emerged. The incorporation of technology in elementary school English lessons carries substantial implications for language learning. The results indicate that technology, when integrated effectively, enhances language acquisition, vocabulary development, and overall language proficiency among young learners. Interactive multimedia resources and digital platforms provide engaging opportunities for students to explore language in dynamic and interactive ways (Brown et al., 2020; Garcia & Martinez, 2021).

Furthermore, the study revealed that technology fosters increased student engagement and collaboration. Online tools and platforms facilitate interactive

learning experiences, allowing students to collaborate with peers, share ideas, and engage with language content in meaningful ways (Jones & Lee, 2019). The incorporation of digital resources has the potential to make English lessons more student-centered, catering to diverse learning styles.

However, the study also acknowledges the challenges associated with integrating technology into elementary education. Issues such as access disparities, concerns about digital equity, and the need for teacher training were identified as potential barriers to the successful implementation of technology-enhanced English lessons (Johnson, 2019; Clark & Evans, 2020).

In conclusion, technology holds a pivotal role in shaping the landscape of English education in elementary schools. While presenting promising opportunities for enhanced language learning, addressing challenges and ensuring equitable access are imperative for its successful integration. This study contributes valuable insights to the ongoing discourse on technology in education, emphasizing the need for a balanced and inclusive approach to harness its full potential for the benefit of elementary school students.

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