

Enhancing English Language Teaching through Technology: A Study of NEP 2020's Recommendations

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Abstract

The New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 places an emphasis on the incorporation of technology into educational settings in order to cultivate an atmosphere that is both dynamic and welcoming to all students. This research investigates the possibilities of technology-enhanced pedagogies in English language instruction, which is in line with the goal of the National Education Policy 2020. The development of students' communication skills, critical thinking abilities, and cultural awareness can be facilitated by educators through the utilization of cutting-edge tools and educational platforms. The purpose of this study is to investigate the impact that information and communication technology (ICT) plays in the process of acquiring English language skills, specifically in the context of undergraduate teaching programs. The findings shed light on the advantages of incorporating technology into the classroom, which include increased convenience, improved assignment completion, and increased student involvement. This study offers recommendations for the efficient application of technology-enhanced English language teaching techniques, which are in line with the objectives of the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020). Innovative techniques to teaching English as a second language through the utilization of digital tools and platforms are referred to as technology-driven pedagogies. Development of Communication Skills: Increasing students' capacity to communicate effectively in English - Critical Thinking and Cultural Awareness: Developing students' capacity for critical thinking and cultural awareness through the use of technology learning of languages that is boosted. Utilizing information and communication technology (ICT) to make classroom instruction and the acquisition of English language skills more effective. The use of various e- resources has become the important part of the learning process now. The Teacher uses technology in the class to creates positive changes. It also helps to enhance with enthusiasm and develop their knowledge. The present study is also proved that ICT and other resource are very useful to improve Language Skills.

Keywords: *NEP 2020; ICT; English Language; Student Development; Language Skills.*

1. Introduction

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 represents a pivotal transformation in India's educational framework, highlighting the incorporation of technology to foster a more inclusive, adaptable, and comprehensive learning atmosphere. Given the pivotal role of English in facilitating global communication, the enhancement of English language instruction has emerged as a paramount concern within the Indian educational landscape. The advent of technology presents significant opportunities to revolutionize English language instruction, enhancing its engagement, interactivity, and overall efficacy.

This research delves into the convergence of technology and English language instruction, analyzing how the recommendations of NEP 2020 can be utilized to foster innovative educational experiences. Through the utilization of digital tools, multimedia resources, and online platforms, educators are able to address a variety of learning styles, foster collaborative learning, and enhance students' language skills in a manner that is both engaging and significant.

The incorporation of digital pedagogies and technological advancements in language instruction has the potential to tackle the difficulties encountered by Indian students in achieving proficiency in English, especially in rural and

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marginalized regions. This study seeks to explore the possible advantages and obstacles associated with technology-enhanced English language instruction, offering perspectives on effective implementation strategies that resonate with the vision outlined in NEP 2020.

2. Objectives of the Study:

- a) To examine how technology has improved English language teaching and learning.
- b) Determine successful approaches for integrating technology into English Language teaching methodologies
- c) To examine the possible advantages and obstacles associated with the incorporation of technology in the realm of English Language Education.
- d) To examine NEP 2020 Technology Education recommendations and their effects on English Language Instructions

2.1 Technology Enhanced English Language Instruction

Mohammad Reza Ahmadi (2018) contended that educational technology tools are highly attractive to language educators because they enhance learner autonomy, promote active student involvement, and optimize favorable language learning results. Technology has become integral to the educational process both inside and outside of classrooms, regarded as a fundamental necessity in contemporary schools and institutions. Technology is increasingly influencing foreign language acquisition globally. The domain of language instruction and acquisition has evolved so swiftly that the traditional classroom is no longer the principal venue for language learning. The integration of e-learning applications and technology to augment language acquisition is not novel, since various educational technology tools and multimedia learning resources have been utilized in formal education for decades.

2.2 Educational Technology Tools Support Teachers and Students:

Technology has revolutionized English language teaching and learning in numerous ways.

- a. Promotes an improved setting for education
- b. Opens the door to a plethora of new tools and strategies for language instruction
- c. Brings learning from theory to practice
- d. Reduces the amount of time spent organizing and planning lessons
- e. Increases possibilities for CPD
- f. More opportunities to interact in the target language and with native speakers
- g. Improving focus and enthusiasm during the language class
- h. Students are given a lot more leeway to choose their own learning strategies and schedules for the language in class.
- i. Thanks to technological advancements, adaptive learning systems can now monitor a student's development and modify their coursework appropriately.

2.3 Effective ways to Incorporate Technology into English Language Instruction

Through the provision of access to authentic language resources, the promotion of engagement, and the customization of the learning experience, the incorporation of technology into English language instruction has the potential to greatly improve learning processes. It is possible to use tools such as interactive language learning apps, multimedia resources, and virtual reality platforms in order to produce lessons that are dynamic and interested in the students. With the help of these technologies' educators may design interactive, stimulating and successful English Language Lessons that meet the needs of students with a wide range of learning styles. Teachers have the ability to design English language training that is not just effective but also engaging, interactive, and effective, and that caters to a variety of learning styles and requirements by using this technology.

2.3.1 Interactive Tools and Platforms:

- ❖ Language learning apps: Duolingo, Babbel, Rosetta Stone
- ❖ Online quizzes and games: Kahoot, Quizlet, Quizizz
- ❖ Virtual whiteboards: SMART Boards, Google Jamboard
- ❖ Collaborative document editing: Google Docs, Microsoft Teams

2.3.2 Digital Resources:

- ❖ Online textbooks and resources: Digital libraries, online course materials
- ❖ Multimedia content: Videos, podcasts, audiobooks
- ❖ Authentic materials: News articles, blogs, social media

2.3.3 Communication and Feedback:

- ❖ Video conferencing: Zoom, Google Meet, Skype
- ❖ Online discussion forums: Discussion boards, online forums
- ❖ Automated feedback tools: Grammar and spell checkers, speech recognition software

2.3.4 Student Engagement:

- ❖ Gamification: Using games and challenges to motivate learners
- ❖ Interactive simulations: Role-playing, virtual field trips
- ❖ Student-created content: Videos, podcasts, blogs

2.3.5 Teacher Support:

- ❖ Professional development: Online courses, webinars
- ❖ Resource sharing: Online communities, forums
- ❖ Lesson planning tools: Digital planners, curriculum guides

2.4 Evaluation the Pros and Cons of Using Technology in English Language Education

Teachers can improve their students' learning experiences through the strategic integration of technology into English language instruction by first considering the benefits and drawbacks of the approach and then developing plans to address the disadvantages.

2.4.1 Valuation of the pros and cons of using technology in English language education:**Pros:**

- ❖ Enhanced Engagement: Interactive tools and multimedia content can increase student motivation and participation.
- ❖ Personalized Learning: Technology allows for tailored learning experiences, enabling students to learn at their own pace.
- ❖ Access to Resources: The internet provides a vast array of language learning resources, including authentic materials and multimedia content.
- ❖ Improved Communication: Technology facilitates communication between students and teachers, enabling real-time feedback and assessment.
- ❖ Flexibility and Accessibility: Online learning platforms make it possible for students to access course materials and learn from anywhere, at any time.

Cons:

- ❖ Digital Divide: Not all students have equal access to technology, creating a potential barrier to learning.
- ❖ Distractions: Technology can be distracting, leading to decreased focus and productivity.
- ❖ Dependence on Technology: Over-reliance on technology can hinder students' ability to develop essential language skills, such as writing and speaking.
- ❖ Technical Issues: Technical problems can disrupt the learning process, causing frustration and wasted time.
- ❖ Cyberbullying and Online Safety: Technology can also pose risks, such as cyberbullying and online safety concerns.

Mitigating the Cons:

- ❖ Ensure Equal Access: Provide alternative options for students without access to technology.
- ❖ Set Boundaries: Establish clear guidelines for technology use in the classroom.
- ❖ Balance Technology Use: Combine technology with traditional teaching methods to ensure well-rounded language skills development.
- ❖ Technical Support: Ensure reliable technical support to minimize disruptions.
- ❖ Online Safety Education: Educate students about online safety and digital citizenship.

2.5 The Impact of NEP 2020's Recommendations for Technology Education on English Language Instruction

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 emphasizes the integration of technology in education to enhance learning outcomes, including English language instruction. Here are some key recommendations and their effects:

2.5.1 NEP 2020 – Recommendations on Technology and English Language

- ❖ National Educational Technology Forum (NETF): A platform for exchanging ideas on using technology to enhance learning, assessment, and administration.
- ❖ Digital Infrastructure: Investing in digital infrastructure, online teaching platforms, and tools to support teaching and learning.
- ❖ Teacher Training: Training teachers to effectively use technology and develop online content.
- ❖ Virtual Labs and Digital Repositories: Creating virtual labs and digital repositories to support learning.
- ❖ Technology as a tool for language learning: NEP 2020 recognizes the potential of technology to revolutionize language learning, including English, by making it more interactive, engaging, and accessible.
- ❖ Integration of technology in the classroom: The policy encourages the use of technology in language classrooms to support various learning activities, such as listening, speaking, reading, and writing.
- ❖ Addressing challenges and ensuring equity: NEP 2020 acknowledges the challenges associated with technology integration, such as infrastructure development and teacher training, and emphasizes the need to address these to ensure equitable access to technology for all students.
- ❖ Multilingualism and English: NEP 2020 promotes multilingualism and encourages the use of Indian languages as the medium of instruction up to grade 5 (and preferably up to grade 8), but also recognizes the importance of English as an international language and its role in global communication.
- ❖ Focus on digital literacy: The policy emphasizes the need to develop digital literacy among students and teachers to effectively leverage technology for learning.
- ❖ Examples of technological interventions: NEP 2020 mentions various initiatives like DIKSHA and SWAYAM, which provide schools with ready-to-use solutions for integrating technology into the learning process.
- ❖ Experiential learning: The policy encourages the use of technology to facilitate experiential learning in English, such as through creative mediums like films and music, to make language learning more engaging and relevant.
- ❖ EdTech companies: NEP 2020 acknowledges the role of EdTech companies in developing innovative solutions for language learning and skills development

2.5.2 Effects on English Language Instruction

- ❖ Personalized Learning: Technology enables tailored learning experiences, allowing students to learn at their own pace and focus on areas where they need improvement.
- ❖ Access to Resources: The internet provides a vast array of language learning resources, including multimedia content, videos, and interactive exercises.
- ❖ Improved Communication: Technology facilitates communication between students and teachers, enabling real-time feedback and assessment.
- ❖ Flexibility and Accessibility: Online learning platforms make it possible for students to access course materials and learn from anywhere, at any time.

3. Conclusion

The integration of technology in English language teaching, as envisioned by NEP 2020, has the potential to revolutionize language education. By leveraging digital tools, online platforms, and multimedia resources, educators can create engaging, interactive, and personalized learning experiences that cater to diverse learning styles and needs. NEP 2020 recommendations on technology integration can enhance English language teaching through platforms and digital repositories can provide students with a wealth of language learning materials, Technology enables teachers to tailor instruction to individual students' needs and abilities and online tools and platforms facilitate communication between students and teachers, enabling real-time feedback and assessment. However, successful implementation will require addressing challenges such as the digital divide, teacher readiness, and infrastructure limitations. By

harnessing the potential of technology and addressing these challenges, educators can create effective and engaging English language instruction that prepares students for success in an increasingly interconnected world.

4. Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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