Technology Assistance in Learning English

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Abstract

This paper revolves around the topic Technology Assistance in Learning English. It shows us how an ordinary person can grasp the concept of learning English adopting the newer ways of learning by using Technology's Assistance. It shows us how an ordinary person can grab the the idea of not only understanding English but speaking it too. Not only that, this paper also displays the necessity of learning English to cope up with the rush of Technological advancements along with the lifestyle of an Ordinary Man trying to adjust himself with the fickle world.

Keywords: English, World, Research, Language, Technology

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Introduction

Technology, which is what we are surrounded by and are cooped up in these days. Technology is the only thing which brings the whole world consisting of 7.7 billion of people shrinking to fractions. People today are slaves of technology, everything around us starting from computing integers to sending missions to Mars are governed by Technology. The basic fact revolving around it that is the Technology itself is governed by two other things. Superior intellect and a language – English. The Globalization across the whole world brought us together involving a drastic change in the modern communications. The importance of the language English is very high in the international business, diplomacy, banking, computing, research, engineering etc. Around one fifth of the world know to speak English or at least has the capability of understanding it, and the population is evidently increasing. Almost in every colleges and universities around the world researches and scientific experiments are conducted in English. English being a global medium has a higher acceptance rate in the world over any other language and therefore many country has their Official Language as English. English is also regarded as one of the Official Languages of the United Nations and many other prestigious International Organizations including the International Olympic Committee. Technology which primarily runs on codes are mainly designed on the basis of the ease in user interface. Due to the wide acceptance of English, maximum of the Technology used today are created on this basic platform English. For the sake of Technological flourishing interest and steps must be taken for which students from rural areas are able to capture the language and have a definite sense of its

application. Similarly, Vice – Versa – using of the Technology for a student to learn English is also a rapid change coming across this modern world.

History of Learning English in India

Though the blooming of English in the subcontinent of India leads back to the introduction of the East India Company, but the time when the British Colonial Rule was getting started it had paced up to meet up the communication gap in between the local citizens, the Indians, the Britishers decided to appoint middlemen like clerks and translators. Therefore, the English Education Act was brought upon in 1835 under the reign of Lord William Bentinck. This new legislative act enabled to re- allocate the fund set aside by The British East India Company which they started long before for Educating the native Indians in English. The Presidency of Bengal first started with the work of Educational Reorganization.

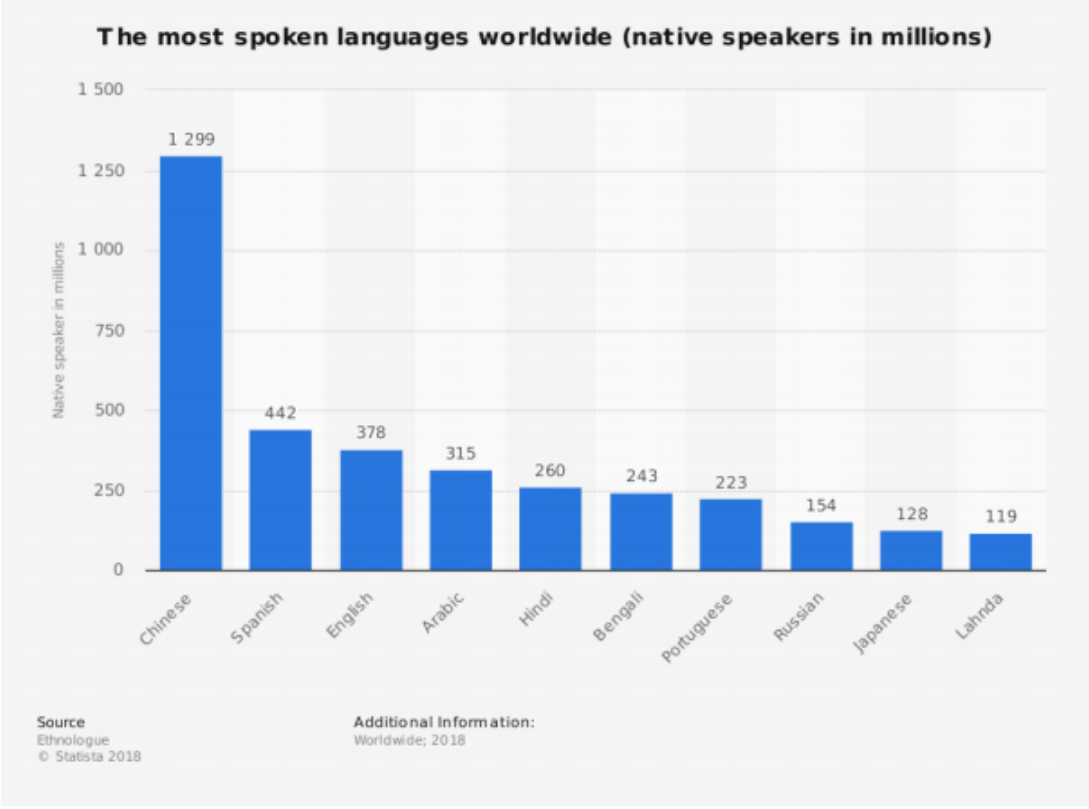
After the Charter Act of 1833 the English became the official language of India. Though it was announced that English knowing Indians will be preferred more in the Government jobs than in any other candidate.

The committee followed up with the setting up English classes in all the oriental colleges such as Calcutta Madrasa, Calcutta Sanskrit College, Banaras Sanskrit College, Delhi College, Agra College etc. The missionaries had hugely popularized the English Education. Indian leaders like Raja Rammohan Roy urged the fellow countrymen to learn the English Language and acquire the knowledge of Western sciences.

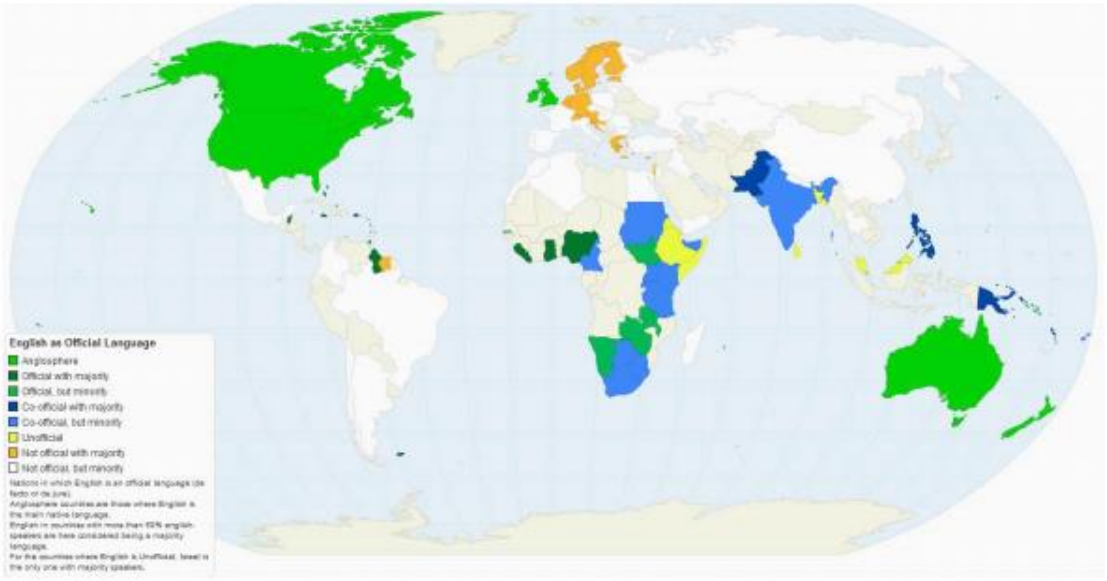
After the Indian Independence in 1947, Hindi was made the Official Language of India whereas several failed attempts were made to take out English and to make Hindi as the sole Official Language but due to strong opposition on this issue, English still holds the position as one of the two Official Languages of India.

English Acceptance in the World

According to the recent reports of Statistica (2018 Report), as a first language around 378 million of native speakers speak English all around the world. It is the 3rd most spoken language around the world after Chinese and Spanish. While around 650 million speak English as their second language. With this huge daily growing population more than 70 % of the mailing letters written today are in English.



Though some of the countries around the globe stick to English as their mother tongue, but most of the countries do know or speak English as a secondary language.



As the language so widely spoken all around the world it is also called the “World Language” or “Lingua Franca of the Modern Era”. It is by the international treaty the Official Language of the Maritime and Aeronautical Language. It is also regarded as the Official Language of the United Nations, International Olympic Committee and many other prestigious International Organizations.

States and territories in which English is the first language of the majority of the population.

States and territories in which English is an official, but not the majority language. (*Here in Fig.*)

Introduction and Advancement of Technology in India

Soon after the Independence of India, the First Prime Minister of the country – Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru had initiated reforms of establishing institutions all across the country to promote higher education and the concept of Science and Technology. The Indian Institute of Technology – or an IIT was first established in Kharagpur, West Bengal on 18th August in the year of 1951 by the then Education Minister Maulana Abul Kalam Azad in order to promote Technical Education. After that more IIT's were opened across the country at Bombay, Delhi, Kanpur, Madras. In the Early 1960's India with friendly ties with the then Soviet Union opened up ISRO to rapidly develop the Indian Space Program and advance study in the field of Nuclear Power in India. India contributes 10 % of expenditure in the research and development in Asia and there was a significant rise in the number of publications by 45 % in the period of years of 2002 – 2007. At present India has the second highest growth in Science Research behind China

in the World. India received financial aids in the Space Programs from Soviet Union which helped Indian Space Research Organization in the constructions of Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station. A policy statement was passed in the parliament on December 2, 1972 which led to the formation of Steel Authority of India (SAI) on the basis of a holding company controlling the inputs and outputs under one umbrella over the nation. From the year of 1987 India had major improvements in the fields of Biotechnology and had a huge impact on Medical and Agricultural Domains due to investment of resources by the government. On 25th June, 2002 India and EU agreed on bilateral cooperation on the field of Science and Technology. India got the observer status at CERN. Government invested in Bangalore to make it the Technological Capital of India. The southern part of the country is responsible for the advancements in the field of Technology and the Chennai, Bangalore and Hyderabad forms the backbone of Research and Development, Manufacturing and the Science and Technology in India.

Usage of Technology in the field of Education at Present

The effective use of technology has positively affected Teachers and Students in the fields of Education creating vast opportunities of learning from the help of huge virtual databases. The concept of Internet Technology has launched massive opportunities for the students to opt for online advanced courses. Online courses are much flexible and cheaper than the core courses available offline. Students can connect with their classmates virtually and can attend the lectures at any of the time they find suitable. They can also post questions about their query for the other people who have overcome the solution to answer which is very much helpful

and hence forms a community relation which increases the productivity level since the involvement of the number of persons on a single problem is much greater than in an offline conservative way of sharing of doubts in a classroom. Recent advancements in the educational technologies resulted positively in the education sector. The new educational technology both revolves around the in the processes of teaching and learning on the usage of digitalized technologies like – iPads, Laptops, Smart Boards etc.

Advantages of Usage of Technology in the field of Education

Puzzles and games are integrated with Subjective contents to make students learn the subject much more easily. Softwares like BrainingCamp develops animated videos on understanding different concepts much more easily. There are many publications and researches published online and also in the blogs which motivates the students to pursue their fields of interest and also let them be aware of all the latest updates and the concepts regarding those topics to boost up their morale in their fields. Computers and other devices have auto-correct which though primarily changes wrong spellings to their correct forms but unconsciously this process strikes the brain of the users to correct any incorrect spelling they thought to be right previously. Access to Educational Resources widens from small libraries to the databases holding every known secret of the world. Use of smartphones also enables teachers and students to access educational information from Education specific applications anytime anywhere. Websites like YouTube, TeacherTube, 02 Learn are hosting videos for students to learn, which are created and uploaded by teachers and experienced educators around the world; simplifying

the access to educational researches. Many E-Books and PDF's are uploaded for free surfing in the public domains altogether making the contents for the resources open for all and unlocking all the previous educational boundaries. Many educational platforms are building up on the concept of social networking among the teachers and students like ePals which facilitate and encourage interactions among the teachers and students increasing collaborations with faster and better learning. There also happens to be the introduction of technological competitions where the teachers provide the students with apps, smart pens increasing the competition between the students both in online and offline classrooms letting the students come up with new and innovative techniques to tackle the problems faced by them, thus promoting Innovation and Creativity.

Assistance of Technology in Learning English

With the rise of technology there has also been a steep rise in the quality of Education in every field. Similarly, in English technology played a great role in learning and understanding the third most spoken language around the world. As the basic theme of learning for any language in the world, Assistance of Technology for Learning English can be used to –

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading
- Writing

As it began through simple audio cassettes, followed by Disks, and then iPods and Audio Players, audiobooks have always been one of the favorites of the people admiring English. Technology for listening to and reading the texts at the same time has been developed increases the pace of listening and understanding. One of such technology is the Whispersync Technology developed by Kindle. English Podcasts are also another widely used means to improve the listening skills.

Going through the speaking skills most of the advancement in technological field has come across this section. The development of FaceTime, Skype has enabled users to communicate between two or more people across the world at the same time enriching the quality of conversation. These type of tools also assists teachers to link to other classes and share their knowledge and also allows students in a similar manner to link to different classes. Also many apps are also coming up in where a person can talk to native speakers to improve their speaking skills. CoffeeStrap and HelloTalk are some of such examples.

Also using of smart devices are aiding in Reading and Writing by introducing the readers and the writers to different topics according to their field of interest. Definition, Vocabulary Builders, Auto-Spells, Grammar Checks makes the contents perfect, enhancing the levels of the learners.

Also alongside all these many games have been developed which bring the users to an environment of constant English conversations and are subjected to different words. Many of such games are multiplayer games that is many users can interact using the same interface in a real time along with other users. This interaction makes them more interested to know the

language better which is being used to converse and thus making an interest grow in their minds unconsciously of learning the language.

Conclusion

Researchers are always experimenting by associating technology with the learning process to see and compare the rate of learning curve to its former contemporary learn through offline methods. It has been noted that the learning process is much more significant and promising than the other. A worldwide survey must be made in this regard where a graph is to be made between children learning in a conventional method and children learning with the assistance of technology along with their intelligence and knowledge with the time in years. This graph can be tallied to find the exponential knowledge gain rate between the students.

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