
REVITALIZING EDUCATION THROUGH: INTEGRATING TELEGRAM AS CORRECTIVE FEEDBACK IN LANGUAGE TEACHING

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Abstract

Recently the use of technology and its integration into the curriculum has gained a great importance. One of this technological devices is mobile phones which is usually banned at school due to the distractions and problems caused by different built-in and installed applications, However, the use of these installed applications such as Telegram on these handheld device especially smart phones in second language teaching is going to assist in effective language teaching and allow students to actively participate in teaching and learning. Keeping all these in mind, the purpose of this presentation is to provide the required information for second language teachers so that they can make use of Telegram efficiently in language classroom.

Keywords: Revitalizing, Creative, Telegram, Technology integration.

Introduction

Language learning is a complex process: in this process, language teachers can't be far away from the technology, which is the application of scientific knowledge to practical tasks by organisations that involve people and technology. It is a fact that technology cannot be separated from society. Technology innovations have social origins and they emerge from the needs of society. Therefore, teachers need technologies relevant to the teaching- learning situation. If the educationalists want children to be technologically equipped, all the changes and preparations ought to be done within the school curriculum, (Vale 2000).

Teachers are the implementers of technology in the classroom they will play an important role in the success or failure of it in education. There is no doubt that learning happens when learners' tendencies and habits are taken into account and made use of. Today smart phones and their inbuilt applications are very popular with students and young people to the extent that they have become habituated with them. Then why not turn this habit into something beneficial like learning a second language, especially in the challenging skills like writing. Writing in English as a second language is one of the demanding activities for learners, so adding color and variety to this activity may set the stage to improve their language skills. Although smart phones and their applications are ubiquitous, their use for language learning is still in their infancy and underexplored. According to Chartrand (2012), installed applications such as Telegram do not only motivate the Net-generation learners to use relevant learning materials, but also let the learner experience the authentic usage of a language in communication. Since students relate more if social networks are used for language teaching, this invariably promotes language acquisition to a great extent.

It is an established fact that the use of technology facilitates teaching and learning in language classrooms. With the advancement of technology, so many applications have emerged; Social networking sites have been quite popular among various age group users particularly the young users since their invention. Also, they are

conceived to be able to motivate and expose learners to the authentic use of the target language (Greenhow, Robelia, & Hughes, 2009).

Conceptual Framework

Creative is tending to create things, or having the ability to create often excellently in a novel fashion (Wikipedia.Org).

Telegram is a mobile application that allows users to communicate among them using mobile gadget and computer. Telegram was launched in 2013 by brothers Nikolai and Pavel Durov, who previously founded the Russian social network VK, but had to leave the company after it was taken over by Mail.ru Group. Telegram can be download and install in Smartphone, PC, Laptop, IPad, or Tab (Wikipedia.Org).

Technology Integration is the use of technology tools in education in order to allow students to apply computer and technology skills to learning and problem-solving (Jolene, 2008).

The Importance of Using Telegram for Language Teaching and Learning

However, for the purpose of teaching and learning, Telegram is prefer for the following reasons:

1. Multiple platforms to synchronise your chats across all your devices Smartphone; (OS, Android), PC, Laptop, IPad, Tab, Web
2. Compatible file format to send documents of any type like; jpg, audio, movie, PDF, excel, word, power point.
3. Large files transfer and has no limits on the size of your media and charts.
4. Grouping facilities to coordinate group of up to 5000 members, access to old/past messages, members add members
5. Better storage capacity and management and store you r media in the cloud.
6. Better memory system and management and is free for ever no ads. No subscription fee.
7. Better security with the encryption and destruct your messages with a timer

The first two reasons are the most important for teacher. He can easily run Telegram on laptop when engage with his students for a blended learning mode and flipped learning mode. All incoming and outgoing postings or messages that are posted can be displayed on multiple platforms concurrently.

How to Install Telegram Application

Step I

To download Telegram for android, you can go to Google plays tore on your internet Smartphone, if on other devices like tab, pc, or desktop you can go to <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.telegram.messenger> to install the app on your device.

Step II

When you launch the Telegram app after installing it, you will see the window showing start messaging button. In the next displayed screen, Telegram will ask you to select your country and enter your phone number. After selecting your country and entering your phone number tap done at the top right, Telegram will send an activation code via SMS to your phone number. Enter the code which you received in your SMS from Telegram. After verification, Telegram will take you to its registration screen where it will ask you to enter your name. Enter your name and tap done it will get you started. You will be able to view all your contact that are using Telegram app or create group with your contact that will allow you to send and receive text messages, videos, audio, files, ms word, excel, power point presentation, etc.

How to use Telegram in Language Teaching and Learning

Language teachers can use telegram app to conduct flipped learning before class meeting, during class meeting and after class meeting through the following steps:

Step I

A language teacher can post a topic or text on comprehension for his students to read or ponder to prepare themselves mentally and emotionally on the text or selected topic. The pre learning activity will trigger and reactivate their schema, i.e existing knowledge, and therefore, increase students interest and awareness so that they will be ready for face to face class meeting.

Step II

When they come to class they will be guided in discussion on the posted topic or text on the flat form and later engage in problem solving activity that will reinforce what they have learned before the class and during the first hours of the class.

Step III

A language teacher can use telegram when he cannot meet with his students in class especially when he is not in campus for other academic activities such as attending seminars, workshops and meetings. Thus he do not need to cancel any class if he can not meet with his students on campus due to other academic activities or bad weather conditions where by teaching and learning will take place synchronously and asynchronously in a virtually mobile flat form.

However the learning process should not stop within the four walls of the classroom. The learning process should be extended outside classroom. The students can still engage in the learning process in the platform as they will be interacting with the teacher and among them. All postings made by students can be recorded on the phone screen. An analysis of frequency on student's posting/responses and amount of each student's writing can be carried out to assess and monitor his or her performance. Thus a language teacher can use the platform for the following teaching and learning activities;

1. Announcement
2. Forum – whole class discussion
3. Quizzes
4. Open ended question
5. Group project report
6. Listening practice
7. Pronunciation practice
8. Speaking practice
9. Writing practice
10. Audio input/feedback
11. Video input/feedback
12. Problem solving
13. Content/materials sharing
14. PowerPoint presentation

Importance of Integrating Telegram APP in Language Teaching

1. The students will have a good chance to see their classmates' mistakes and avoid repeating them in their own writing and opportunity to share their ideas and learn more from peers.
2. Helped students review and remember what they have studied and learned.
3. Helped students to be actively involve in the learning process and felt more responsible.
4. It caused competition among learners because everyone wanted to be the first to provide feedback.
5. This method improved their relationship with their classmates and the teacher at the same time since they were in touch all the time.

Educational Implication of Integrating Telegram APP in Language Teaching

1. Allow students and teachers to participate in one platform.
2. Sometimes Writing on Telegram is faster than paper and pen and the students are exposed continuously to new ideas, given a big chance to feed their creativity.
3. The ease and availability of the device allow students to communicate their thoughts and perceptions over different topics with a large no. of users, and raise their voice.
4. It helps in creating awareness among the students Keeping in touch with their classmates in case of being absent and missing the class.
5. It helps in making Learning with fun and Time saving

Challenges of Blending Telegram Application in Language Teaching

Integrating Telegram app in language teaching will drastically affect pronunciation and grammar because most students do not write complete sentence or use proper grammatical method while writing text/message.

The active involvement of students on social networking while studying results in reduction in their focus of attention. Consequently, their academic performances decline.

Students get addicted towards Social Media, instead of spending time on their studies and with family in leisure period; they prefer chatting with online friends and unknown faces.

Blending Telegram application in language teaching is going to be costly.

Suggestions

It is strongly suggested that parents and teachers to be guiding student's on proper use of correct grammatical words and complete sentences while writing text/messages.

Parents should also spend as much time with their wards in leisure period, maintain a friendly relation and try to meet their queries so far as possible in order that their child might not be much habituated towards social networking sites.

Also to minimize the negative effect of Social Network, it is important to educate students on proper use of information and communication technology.

Parents should assist their children in purchasing Smartphone's that can use telegram

Conclusion

No single method or strategy will lead to learning, technology and innovative approaches to learning have contributed to the variety of ways learning may happen and social network are becoming more and more popular and have become part of daily life for an increasing number of people. Because of their attractive features, young people are attracted to Social Networking sites. Nonetheless it requires a bit of originality and effort on the part of teachers, to integrate them in to the teaching and learning process.

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