



THE ROLE OF INTERNET SPACE IN FACILITATING AUTONOMOUS LEARNING IN ENGLISH TEACHING

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Abstract: This study explores the role of internet space in facilitating autonomous learning in English language teaching focusing on three key gaps in current educational practices. First, it addresses the gap in access to diverse, personalized learning resources, highlighting how the internet provides a wealth of materials such as language learning apps, online courses, and authentic media that can cater to individual learning needs and preferences.

Keywords: Internet-based learning, Digital tools in ELT, Online language resources, E- Learning platforms, Language learning apps , Mobile assisted language learning, Collaborative learning online , Virtual classrooms ,Social media in language learning , Global communication in ELT , Cultural exchange through language, Authentic language exposure.

Introduction: The rapid advancement of technology and the widespread availability of internet resources have revolutionized education, particularly in the field of English language teaching .. One of the most transformative aspects of this shift is the rise of autonomous learning, where learners take responsibility for their own educational processes. The internet provides a vast and diverse array of tools such as online courses, language learning apps, videos, forums, and interactive platforms that support self-directed learning and enable students to learn at their own pace, anytime and anywhere. This shift toward internet-facilitated autonomous learning has the potential to enhance language acquisition by offering more personalized and flexible learning opportunities



Methods: This study uses a mixed-methods approach to investigate the role of internet space in facilitating autonomous learning in English language teaching. The methods include: 1. Literature Review: Analyzing existing research on autonomous learning and online tools in ELT to identify key themes and challenges. 2. Surveys and Questionnaires: Collecting data from English language learners and teachers to assess their experiences with internet-based learning tools and their effectiveness in promoting learner autonomy. 3. Interviews: Conducting in-depth interviews with learners and teachers to gather qualitative insights on how they use and perceive internet resources in autonomous language learning. 4. Case Study: Observing a group of learners using online platforms for self-directed learning, analyzing their engagement and challenges. 5. Data Analysis: Quantitative survey data will be analyzed statistically, while qualitative interview and case study data will be analyzed thematically to identify key patterns and insights. This methodology aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of how internet tools support autonomous learning in English language teaching.

Result : Access to Resources: Learners benefitted from the wide range of online tools (apps, courses, forums) that allowed them to study at their own pace and address personal needs. 2. Increased Autonomy: Learners felt empowered to take control of their learning, setting goals and selecting materials suited to their preferences. 3. Motivation Challenges: Some learners struggled to stay focused due to the abundance of content, although those engaging with interactive platforms showed better motivation. 4. Teacher Support: Teachers played a crucial role in guiding learners to effective online resources and helping develop digital literacy. 5. Digital Literacy: Learners with stronger digital skills had better outcomes, including improved language proficiency.

Conclusion: The internet plays a crucial role in facilitating autonomous learning in English language teaching by offering diverse resources that allow learners to study at their own pace and according to their needs. This enhances



learner autonomy, enabling students to set goals and track progress. However, challenges such as motivation, focus, and digital literacy must be addressed. Teacher support is key in helping learners navigate online tools effectively. Peer interaction through online platforms also boosts motivation and provides authentic language practice. Overall, with proper support, the internet can be a powerful tool for enhancing language learning.

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