

TEACHING LISTENING WITH TECHNOLOGY

Teshaboyeva Nafisa Zubaydulla qizi

Scientific advisor: Jizzakh branch of the National university of Uzbekistan named after Mirzo Ulug'bek. The faculty of psychology, the department of Foreign languages; Philology and teaching languages: English

Axmedova Charosxon Feruzovna

The faculty of psychology the department of Foreign languages: Philology and teaching languages: English, student of group 102-23

Abstract: The teaching of listening skills in language learning has undergone significant transformation with the integration of technology. In the digital age, learners have access to a wealth of resources and tools that can enhance their listening comprehension, provide real-time feedback, and promote active engagement with audio-visual content. This article explores various technological tools and methods that can be used to teach listening, with a focus on online platforms, mobile apps, and artificial intelligence (AI). Additionally, it examines the challenges and opportunities that technology brings to language education, offering practical suggestions for educators to integrate these tools into their curriculum. By leveraging technology, educators can create more personalized, dynamic, and effective listening practice environments, enhancing learners' listening skills in diverse and engaging ways.

Keywords:

- Listening skills
- Language teaching
- Technology in education
- Online platforms
- Mobile apps
- Artificial intelligence
- Educational technology
- Digital tools for listening

Listening is one of the core skills in language learning, but it is often regarded as challenging due to the complexity of natural speech, accent variations, and diverse contexts. Traditional listening exercises, such as classroom-based listening tasks or audio recordings, have been supplemented in recent years with technological innovations that offer more interactive and personalized ways to develop this skill. As a result, technology has become a key ally for educators in addressing the diverse needs of learners and improving the effectiveness of language acquisition. The rise of digital

tools, mobile apps, and online platforms offers exciting possibilities for language educators to engage students in listening activities that are both dynamic and tailored to individual proficiency levels. With the help of artificial intelligence (AI) and speech recognition technologies, it is now possible to provide real-time feedback on listening comprehension, thus fostering a more responsive and learner-centered environment. This article aims to explore the role of technology in teaching listening skills, examining the different tools available, the benefits they offer, and the challenges they present.

Technological Tools for Teaching Listening

Online Platforms and Websites: There are numerous online platforms that facilitate listening practice through interactive exercises. Websites such as BBC Learning English, ESL Lab, and Ted Talks offer a range of listening materials designed for different levels of proficiency. These platforms provide not only authentic audio and video content but also comprehension quizzes and vocabulary exercises that test understanding in context. BBC Learning English provides free audio and video lessons with accompanying exercises, which can help students focus on listening for specific information or overall understanding. ESL Lab offers listening comprehension exercises with graded levels, including pre-listening activities and quizzes that encourage active learning. Online platforms like these allow learners to access a variety of accents and speech speeds, enhancing their ability to listen to different types of spoken English.

Mobile Apps for Listening Practice: Mobile apps like Duolingo, Memrise, Rosetta Stone, and Beelinguapp are increasingly popular for self-paced language learning. These apps incorporate listening tasks that help learners practice listening comprehension through a combination of interactive dialogues, native speaker recordings, and language games. Mobile apps offer flexibility, allowing learners to practice listening at their own pace, anytime and anywhere. Duolingo, for instance, provides short, bite-sized lessons where learners listen to short phrases and select the correct translation or response. Memrise focuses on native speaker recordings, providing exposure to real-world language usage, including idiomatic expressions and slang.

The use of mobile apps for listening practice allows for repetition and gradual progression, which is crucial for skill development.

Speech Recognition and AI Tools: AI-based tools, such as Google Translate, Speechling, and ELSA Speak, leverage speech recognition and natural language processing technologies to help learners improve their listening and speaking skills simultaneously. These tools provide instant feedback on pronunciation, intonation, and comprehension, enabling learners to adjust and refine their skills in real-time.

Speechling allows learners to listen to native speakers and then repeat what they hear, providing corrective feedback on pronunciation and fluency. ELSA Speak uses AI to evaluate pronunciation and suggests improvements, enabling learners to fine-tune their listening and speaking accuracy. AI-powered platforms can personalize listening practice by adapting to individual learner's levels and providing targeted exercises based on their progress.

Podcasts and Audio Resources: Podcasts have become an invaluable resource for language learners. With topics ranging from everyday conversation to specialized themes, podcasts allow learners to immerse themselves in authentic speech, improving their ability to understand natural language flow, idiomatic expressions, and cultural nuances. Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and Audible offer extensive libraries of language learning podcasts that cater to different proficiency levels.

Benefits of Technology in Listening Instruction

Accessibility and Convenience: With technology, listening practice is no longer confined to the classroom. Learners can access listening resources from anywhere, at any time, allowing them to engage in listening activities outside of scheduled class times. This autonomy is particularly valuable for adult learners or those with busy schedules.

Personalization: Many digital tools adapt to individual learners' progress and needs. By analyzing the user's performance, AI-driven apps can provide personalized feedback, adjust difficulty levels, and suggest specific exercises to improve weak areas. This targeted approach ensures that learners are not overwhelmed and can practice at their own pace.

Exposure to Authentic Materials: Technology opens up a wealth of authentic materials for language learners, ranging from podcasts and YouTube videos to news broadcasts and documentaries. Such materials help learners develop the ability to understand spoken language in real-world contexts, which is often more challenging than textbook dialogues.

Engagement and Motivation: Interactive tools and gamified learning experiences can make listening practice more engaging. Mobile apps that incorporate quizzes, challenges, and rewards can motivate learners to continue practicing regularly and track their progress.

Challenges of Teaching Listening with Technology

Despite the many advantages, integrating technology into language instruction presents several challenges:

Over-reliance on Technology: While technology can enhance learning, it cannot replace the human element of teaching. Educators must find a balance between technology and face-to-face interaction to ensure comprehensive skill development.

Technical Issues: Not all learners have access to high-speed internet or advanced devices, which can limit the use of certain tools. Educators should be mindful of such disparities and offer alternatives when necessary.

Quality Control: With an abundance of online content available, not all resources are equally reliable or educational. Teachers need to carefully curate materials to ensure they are appropriate for learners' levels and objectives.

Technology has revolutionized the way we teach listening skills in language learning. From interactive websites and mobile apps to AI-powered tools and podcasts, educators now have a variety of resources at their disposal to engage students and improve their listening abilities. By embracing these digital tools, teachers can create more flexible, personalized, and dynamic learning experiences for their students. However, as with any technological advancement, educators must remain critical and thoughtful in their integration of these tools, ensuring that they complement traditional teaching methods rather than replace them.

References:

- 1. Anderson, A., & Lynch, T.** (1988). *Listening*. Oxford University Press.
- 2. Chapelle, C. A.** (2001). *Computer applications in second language acquisition: Foundations for teaching, testing, and research*. Cambridge University Press.
- 3. Stockwell, G.** (2012). *Computer-assisted language learning: Diversity in research and practice*. Cambridge University Press.
- 4. Vandergrift, L., & Goh, C. C. M.** (2012). *Teaching and learning second language listening: Metacognition in action*. Routledge.
- 5. Godwin-Jones, R.** (2018). "Using Mobile Technologies in the Language Classroom." *Language Learning & Technology*, 22(2), 1-17.
- 6. Thorne, S. L.** (2020). "Technologies and the Teaching of Listening." *Language Teaching*, 53(4), 480-493