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## Comparing Traditional and Technological Methods of Efl in Higher Education

*Saydaxmetova Xatila*

*Student of Master's Degree UzSWLU*

*Gulbakhor Abdukadyrova*

*Supervisor, A senior teacher UzSWLU*

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### ABSTRACT

This literature review focuses the researches which were conducted on comparing traditional and technological methods of EFL in Higher Education. It reviews various assumptions and thoughts of several linguistics. Moreover, it concludes advantages and disadvantages of technology in EFL classrooms and how traditional methods can be replaced by technological methods.

**KEYWORDS:** technology, language learning, mobile devices, EFL, education system, online courses, digital learning methods, traditional methods.

### Introduction

There have been dramatically significant changes in the area of the science and technology which lead to create new education era where humans need new potentials to implement new knowledge. Today even in teaching process required new modern methods to flourish education system and reach desirable achievements in learners' results especially in acquiring foreign language it is strongly proved that there are lots of advantages of technological methods which can overweigh traditional methods. However, there are still some questions to be discussed. Namely, should we apply new modern methods rejecting traditional ones in higher education in teaching process or it should cover both of them? Before answering the question we should learn thoughts of scientists who have made researches in this sphere, in order to find proper solution for this issue.

The teaching of EFL in Higher education has been conducted mainly by traditional or slightly sophisticated teacher-centered methods and approaches rather than modern student-oriented methods and techniques. Both of them theoretically and practically investigated that the transmission and assimilation of knowledge and information can be accurate and more understandable when it is transmitted by technological methods. (Cottel & Millis, 1993; Bonner, 1999) Goodwin (2012) have stated that the improvement of interactive and authentic technology introduced a new generation of educational instruments and tools that have been approved as revolutionary gadgets that have great potential and the vast majority of opportunities to change learning environments transformed traditionally. After being invented and uploaded, these tools are widely utilized in

the process of teaching especially, in Higher education (Alfahad, F.N. (2012)). The usage of them causes a transfer of the traditional learning model where the classroom is teacher-centered, to a modern learning model in which the teacher is not any longer dominant of the learning process. (Huong Thi Bao Dinh, 2015) For instance, the accessibility of mobile gadgets in the classroom, such as laptops or tablets, provides students access to look over horizon with the help of wider and more flexible source of learning materials rather than materials and sources that are used and offered in traditional classroom syllabus, such as blackboards with chalks or textbooks, class books, handouts books. (Goodwin, 2012) According of Schuler (2017) more than 700.000 applications programmed for learning process are downloadable from Play market for Android, Apple's App store for Iphone, which give students opportunity to access to a wide range of learning materials for mobile gadgets such as the iPad, smartphones, tablets. According to the quantitative analyses of pre-/post-course questionnaires and surveys and the qualitative analysis of learning journals and educational magazines, Sanprasert concluded that teachers and students who have technological methods became more independent and more confident learners and teachers, and technological methods can help to develop a learner's sense of autonomy. Bonwell & Eison (2018) concluded that with the help of the introduction of mobile phones, gadgets and computers, nowadays, students are able to do something they ought to have been able to do long ago – to learn productively and actively. For the first time ever, students can be able to access to gratitude for applications, different channels, videos, simulations and digital books which make the learning process rather more intriguing and engaging. Furthermore, one of the professors at Michigan University has disapproved the usage of technology in the classroom. Because of the fact that technology give opportunity to the rise of many gadgets that can access the Internet. Students often have difficulty in concentrating, because students have to fight off some distractions in order to focus on their work such instant messages and notifications from Instagram, Facebook or Tik Tok even in the classrooms. Devices such as laptops and smartphones do not assist with work. At least 60% of students in the US are provided with laptops by their universities. (Steiner and Mendelovitch, 2016) The problem even gets worse when students use these machines for social media which is the same problem in Uzbekistan educational institutions. People sometimes kill their time to check updates on different social media sites, even during classes. So, in general, it is difficult to focus on their assignments. Phones have also become highly addictive not only for students but also for teachers, and students rarely spend more than 10 minutes without checking their phones.

There are a great number of benefits of digital learning methods over traditional education methods.

Effective teaching methods - to enrich the education system, it is very important to ensure effective implementation of teaching methods for teachers and professors. When teachers' perceptions were observed, the vast majority of empirical findings indicate that EFL teachers have positive perceptions of technology use in the classroom (Aydin 2013; Canals and Al-Rawashdeh 2019; Huang et al. 2019; Morgana and Shrestha 2018; O'Bryan and Hegelehimer 2007; Thang et al. 2014) because these contribute greatly to the improvement of students' knowledge (Isisag (2012). Before the advent of technology, teachers primarily used textbooks and explained concepts on the board. But with the advent of technology, they are gaining in-depth knowledge and ensuring understanding of concepts among students. Apart from explaining the concepts to the students, they can also show them pictures and images so that they can have a better understanding. (Ding et al. 2019) The use of technology allows teachers to adequately implement teaching methods. Whereas students are able to implement effective methods of understanding and learning.

Improving Independent Work - Despite the use of technology, improvements are being made in students' independent work competencies. Students, especially those who are slow to grasp concepts or have learning

disabilities, tend to depend on others. When teachers teach and depend on classmates, friends, or family members, they are unable to grasp concepts effectively. Thus, when they learn to use information technology, they can expand their understanding in terms of concepts. With a proper understanding of the topics and concepts, they are able to overcome various obstacles and difficulties associated with the implementation of tasks. Therefore, when they need to work on a project or assignment, they are able to work independently with minimal or no help from others.

Activation of the educational system - the use of information technologies makes a great contribution to the activation of the educational system. There are many aspects that are affected by the use of information technology in the educational system. (Siefert et al. 2019) These include teaching methods, teaching strategies, interactive learning, individualized and differentiated approach to teaching, cognitive activity and self-control among students through the use of video and audio information. Includes testing and control through a system of equations. In some cases, sufficient understanding of the concepts is provided by videos when teachers are teaching lesson plans or when students are presenting their research projects in higher education institutions. One of the most important aspects is that students can make improvements in knowledge and information acquisition. As a result, they could improve their academic performance and achieve their academic goals.

Taking Online Courses - Individuals are pursuing bachelors, masters, or doctoral programs at institutions of higher education. They even have to take online courses while doing these programs. Online classes are more common in other countries like the United States of America than in Uzbekistan. One of the main limitations of online classes is that people do not have the opportunity to listen to class lectures or to establish appropriate conditions and relationships with other individuals. To pursue online courses, they must first access the internet. If people are located far away, in other regions or countries, they use the internet to do online courses. Moreover, the websites such as Coursera or British council website announce free courses every year.

Online education provides opportunities to use multimedia tools in the learning process. This includes the use of color, animation, sound and video. School teachers and professors of colleges and universities have the opportunity to use in terms of visibility of the materials used to improve teaching methods, teaching strategies and improve the overall system of education. By providing online education, individuals who cannot attend classroom lectures or live far away can continue their courses and programs.

In conclusion, this study highlights the vital educational potential and multiple benefits of technology in the language classroom for positive learning outcomes. Of course, the goal of both traditional and modern technology is to maximize students' English skills and provide a space that best facilitates learning. One of the ultimate goals of using modern technologies is to involve students actively in language learning and encourage them to master English in a practical and realistic way.

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