



IMPORTANCE OF ICT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING AND TEACHING

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ABSTRACT

The effect of ICT for teaching and learning process has become relevant as it facilitates teaching and learning process, create helpful learning environment, and help learners develop creative thinking and self-confidence. This paper focuses on the importance of ICT in schools by students and teachers to support the processes of learning and teaching. It describes the ways in which teachers should facilitate student use of computer systems and how they can progress. The use of information and communication technology in schools is taken very seriously by governments and educational systems around the world as it provides access to a variety of information sources, forms and types; help in the preparation of reports and the organization of events; helps to put down the barriers between information held on several systems, thus creating a borderless communication and information environment by allowing users to access different database, thus having access to millions of information at their fingertips. This paper thus suggests that effective introduction of ICT in the teaching and learning process is an indispensable means of improving it.

Keywords: Computer Aided Instruction, Expert system, Intelligent tutoring system, E-learning, database.

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INTRODUCTION

For education, the purpose of ICT is usually to familiarize students and teachers with the use and workings of computers, related social and ethical issues. It is generally believed that ICT can empower both teachers and learners. It promotes change to education in 21st century. ICT not only transforms teaching but also the learning processes. The transformation gets to increase learning gains for students that provide learners an opportunity to develop communication skills, creativity, and other thinking skills. Moreover, smart solutions for the future including laptop learning, smart classrooms, e-learning, didactic equipment and stimulations is the key to education today. A perfect learning environment is needed in which students, teachers, administrators, and parents can easily communicate and cooperate with each other, share secure information around the clock, and, finally, access a world of knowledge beyond classroom walls.

ICT is very useful to society, particularly to students in colleges. An ICT-rich educational experience brings benefits to the students. Technology is a significant part of student's everyday lives. Necessary software and hardware is have been made available for students to use, while also helping them develop their own ICT skills. More than 60% of the students in the world have a computer, laptop or internet accessible device at home as well so that they can search for information regardless of time and place.

In fact, ICT empowers students to engage in the learning process and give them an interest in their personal education. By integrating ICT into the classroom, students have the ability to learn more effectively, collaborate with each other, and explore the world around them. Anytime, anywhere access to internet-based tools is necessary to encourage learning inside the classroom. For example, students who are always online, they will always explore something and share with their friends. It unknowingly makes them more collaborate with each other, On the other hand, ICT provided e-learning to the learners. It is a flexible learning to those who are busy in their own things. E-learning is a way for them to study at home. It is useful and benefit for them. Other than that, hints and tips are the best practice for them to share their knowledge and opinion if they have their own ideas.

Today, ICT brings many benefits to the younger generation particularly for students. For example, some of the students who work part-time also can find some time to do their class works. In addition, most of the time students like to use word processing from the computer itself. It is also quick and easy to edit their work and develop their presentation by using ICT. In fact, ICT also gives educators the opportunity to change the way learning happens, and enable student development. ICT present a range of tools that teachers or lecturers use to present and display as part of their teaching and help educators interact with students as well



as engage them in a more meaningful way. These technological tools can be purposefully designed for education, for example, software or hardware used in the context such as word processors and spreadsheets. Computer tools help students and teachers operate complex data-sets. This then provides the context for effective discussion that help to develop subject understanding. ICT is beneficial for teachers to share resources, expertise and advice. It is also easier to plan and prepare lessons and design materials for students. Sometimes, ICT helps teachers to access up-to-date students and school data, anytime anywhere. Teachers can enhance their professional image by using ICT.

Impact on the Curriculum

Most educators would perceive the impact of ICT on the curriculum to be positive. With the use of ICT students can use more primary source material and be encouraged to address real problems and develop analytical and interpretive skills. The classroom can be a part of the learning process in an open and continuing dialogue. While the impact will be evident on almost all disciplines of learning, the degree will vary substantially. ICT is said to enable teachers to save time and to increase productivity in such activities as:

- Access to a multiplicity of information sources, forms and types.
- Preparing and updating daily lessons.
- Plans, making hard copy visualizations and handouts for classes, as well as individualized educational plans.
- Maintaining grade books.
- Compiling a data bank of exam questions.
- Online inspection and correction of students' work on their computers
- For slower students and students with disabilities or with special problems.
- Presenting visual/oral content materials, tasks, and questions to the audience.

CONCLUSION:

ICT can enhance teaching by improving what is already practiced or introducing new and better ways of learning and teaching. It has a positive effect on behavior, motivation, communication and process skills of students and teachers.



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