



## ENHANCING ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS USING CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY

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### ABSTRACT

Technology plays a significant role in the learning process in and out of class. Technology makes it easier for students to find information quickly and accurately. Search engines and e-books are partially replacing traditional textbooks. Instead of personal tutors, students can get one-on-one help through educational videos – anytime and anywhere – and massive open online courses. Every language class usually uses some form of technology. Technology has been used to both help and improve language learning. It enables teachers to adapt classroom activities thus enhancing the language learning process. It also continues to grow in importance as a tool to help teachers facilitate language learning for their learners. It encourages learners to learn individually and acquire responsible behaviors, and develop higher-order thinking skills. It helps them solve their learning struggles and find methods to use what they learn in ways that are effective and meaningful. Social Media Channels, Remote Teaching Tools like Zoom MS Teams, Skype, and Google Meet are being used for Conducting effective Online Lessons these days. This article focuses on the role of using new technologies in learning English as a second language. It discussed different tools and online platforms which support English language learners to increase their LSRW skills by using various online tools and digital platforms.

**KEYWORDS:** Technology, language learning, online tools, Digital platforms.

### INTRODUCTION

The role of Technology in every aspect of life has become indispensable and English language learning has no exception to it. The COVID-19 pandemic has opened many opportunities for English language learners to learn English using Technology and post-COVID-19, the use of technology in English language learning has got upstairs and it turned many technophobes into technophiles. Tools of Educational Technology like Kahoot!, Flip, Quizizz, Edpuzzle, Socrative, Quill, and Cambridge's Write & Improve became part and parcel of academic learning including language learning. Not only do these tools support the student's learning but also give them enjoyable learning experiences.

#### What Kahoot is used for?

What is Kahoot!? Kahoot! is a tool that delivers and presents questions to students. It is set up as a game that students can play either individually or in groups. Instructors provide students with multiple-choice questions, which are projected on a classroom screen.

#### How do students use Kahoot!?

You can host a Kahoot! live to teach in class or remotely, or assign a student-paced challenge. When playing live in class, kahoots are displayed on a shared screen everyone in the classroom can see. Students join in and answer using their own devices with an internet connection - for example, a tablet or computer.

#### Why is Kahoot so popular?

Kahoot's easy-to-use format and catchy music make it a favorite among teachers and students to learn and revise school work. As of today, Kahoot! has managed to host more than 1 billion cumulative players on its platform in less than four years from launch.



### **What is a Flipgrid?**

Flipgrid is a website that allows teachers to create "grids" to facilitate video discussions. Each grid is like a message board where teachers can pose questions, called "topics," and their students can post video responses that appear in a tiled grid display.

How can students use Flipgrid?

How to Use Flipgrid

Students select a topic and then tap the green plus to start the recording process.

Record a video – flip the camera and pause while recording.

Review the video – gain confidence with unlimited retakes.

Take a selfie – customize the image to add style.

Enter Info – last step before submitting the video.

How are teachers using Flipgrid?

One of the main things going for Flipgrid is its ease of use. Teachers set up an account and create grids, which act as communities for students to work in. Within each grid the teacher creates prompts called topics, and students post video responses to the prompts and replies to each other's videos.

### **What is Quizizz used for?**

Quizizz is a Learning platform that offers multiple tools to make a classroom fun, interactive and engaging. As a teacher, you can create lessons, conduct formative assessments, assign homework, and have other interactions with your students (for all grades) in a captivating way.

Is Quizizz good for students?

Image result for Quizizz

Quizizz is useful in multiple classroom situations. Straight-up quiz-show style assessments can help students recall facts and prepare for traditional tests while interactive lessons encourage more in-depth learning.

Is Quizizz easy to use?

Quizizz is very easy for creating and conducting online quizzes. They have a clean and clutter-free website. The basic account plan gives pretty good functionalities to create and publish multiple-choice or open-ended quizzes. The quiz question types are also customizable.

Quizizz is a web-based assessment tool that allows you to present quizzes on science, social sciences, computer science, technical education, and art to students as a timed test or homework with a specified deadline.

### **What is Edpuzzle used for?**

EDpuzzle is a teaching tool used to place interactive content into pre-existing videos from a variety of sources, such as TED or YouTube, or into videos you have made. To create an EDpuzzle account, navigate to EDpuzzle.com.

Why should teachers use Edpuzzle?

EdPuzzle is the perfect tool for allowing students to watch and engage with videos while the teacher gathers data throughout the lesson. As teachers dabble into the flipped classroom philosophy, EdPuzzle is the perfect enhancement tool for videos to be watched at home instead of eating up valuable class time.

What types of questions can you ask on Edpuzzle?

You can add

Open-ended questions. This is perfect if you want your students to give a more thoughtful response. ...

Multiple-choice. Here you can select which answers are correct and incorrect. ...

Notes. This is your tool for telling your students anything you need them to know about the video.

### **What is Socrative used for?**

Socrative is an interactive web-based student-response system (also available through iOS, Android, or Chrome apps) that can help teachers spark conversation and learning through user-created polls and quizzes.

What is a Socrative exam?

What is Socrative? Socrative is an online tool for teachers to give quizzes and on-the-fly assessments to students. With Socrative you can create your own quizzes, quizzes are automatically graded, and you can create reports to evaluate how everyone did.

Which is better Kahoot! or Socrative?



Kahoot! offers more features of gamification than Socrative. In Kahoot, players select from several digital badges, and avatars, points are collected during the activity based on the number of correct answers and how fast the answers were given.

#### **What are the features of Socrative?**

Socrative maintains a reports section, where teachers can download an Excel spreadsheet with data on overall class performance. Individual student reports are also available to download in PDF format. Aggregate and individual results can also be e-mailed to teachers. One noteworthy feature is the Quick Question.

#### **What is Quill used for?**

Quill is a platform that has a set of tools for teaching writing, vocabulary, and grammar and includes over 400 exercises. You can guide your students to learn by reconstructing sentences, proofreading passages, writing new passages, and more.

#### **What is 'Write & Improve'?**

Write & Improve is simple to use: just choose a task, write or upload a written response and use the feedback to quickly improve. It shows you how to improve your spelling, grammar, and vocabulary. Join over 2 million learners of English who have used Write & Improve to improve their writing.

#### **Is 'Write & Improve' reliable?**

Overall, 'Write and improve' is a helpful tool, mainly I would say, for self-study. It provides some assistance and gives some feedback but it definitely needs a lot of improvement. It would be extremely helpful if there was constructive feedback for all the users across various levels and categories.

### **CONCLUSION**

The traditional teachers found it difficult to use the above-mentioned tools in the beginning immediately after the sudden closure of educational institutions during the outbreak of the COVID-19 Pandemic, but they could get used to using the tools of educational technology. It is a good sign for the fraternity of both the teachers and students using technology in and out of the classroom. This article recommends the express purpose of optimizing the technology for English language learning in the future.

### **REFERENCES**

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