A STUDY ON E- LEARNING FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING IN THE CURRENT SCENARIO

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Abstract : Technology has put a foundation stone to new methods of teaching English, in which teachers get opportunities to deal differently with students of different abilities. Present scenario in education is quite different from traditional methods. English language teaching in today's competitive world is a skill that expects the language teacher to be invariably one step ahead of the learner. Chapter I-This introductory chapter elucidates the aims and specific objectives of the study. The various supportive data used for the study, me6thodology used for the project study and the significance and scope of the study undertaken has been presented is given. Relevance of e-learning, it's role in developing the language skills are given. Chapter II-This chapter on 'Network Based Lang Teaching & Learning' deals with the process of E-Learning, its growth and development at various stages, the important features are also explained in detail. The benefits of E-Learning and need for digital classrooms. The role of teacher or the instructor in English language teaching in the digital classroom is presented. Materials and modules used for teaching – learning process in E-Learning, online teaching are elucidated. Chapter III- This chapter on 'Language Lab' vividly states about the several aspects of Language Lab in English Language Learning. Learning strategies and teaching strategies, soft wares used for Language learning is discussed. Various online modules available for language learning viz., teaching of grammar, language skills- listening, speaking, reading and writing, Pronunciation and vocabulary learning are state with examples. Importance of ICT in langu8gae learning is also given. Chapter IV -The concluding chapter deals with the overall summing up of the contents of the Entire study. The advantages and disadvantages of e-learning are explained. This chapter also proposes about the future suggestions for further investigation in the field of E-Learning.

Introduction
Current scenario of English language teaching
The need for effective communication is the basic requirement in this age of globalization and internationalization of higher education. Amazing things have been happened in every field with the launch of technology, which has contributed tremendously to the academic environment to encounter various situations for enhancing language skills. The ultimate objective of any teaching is providing a platform for better learning.

Technology has put a foundation stone to new methods of teaching English, in which teachers get opportunities to deal differently with students of different abilities. Present scenario in education is quite different from traditional methods. The teacher is the sole source of information in the traditional method; the students had little involvement And passively participated with varying degrees of attention. Those with poor listening skill do not benefit much, they become a silent witness. The teacher only has more opportunity to speak for an extended period of time, students are not given chance to interact. Technology enabled teaching is more on student / learner centered one. As a solution to the traditional teaching, technology assists to ensure learners participation in class room and they take part actively to enhance the skill, whereas the teacher assumes a role of a guide.

Traditionally, only the human mind would generate process to receive and create information by absorbing, conversing, interacting, imagining and thinking. But in modern technology a part of this process have been taken over by the electronic machines. Increase in potential expectation of students over the tutor, communication and learning environment, multimedia is the most effective media for educational opportunity. It is a great education because we learn and update knowledge without rigorous learning. Following are some of the technical tools which make teaching-learning process more effectively: Eboard, LCD projector, power point presentation, spreadsheet, online worksheets, checklists, web technologies etc. The usage of these tools has given their best contribution to acquire essential skills in English language.

English language teaching in today's competitive world is a skill that expects the language teacher to be invariably one step ahead of the learner. The process of assimilating new ideas into an existing cognitive structure is never easy for the teachers as well as the learners". In lieu of this it requires a broad–minded attitude and positive approach to incorporate innovative methodologies in pedagogy to equip the teacher efficiently to train the learner. It is an inevitable fact that when practiced with
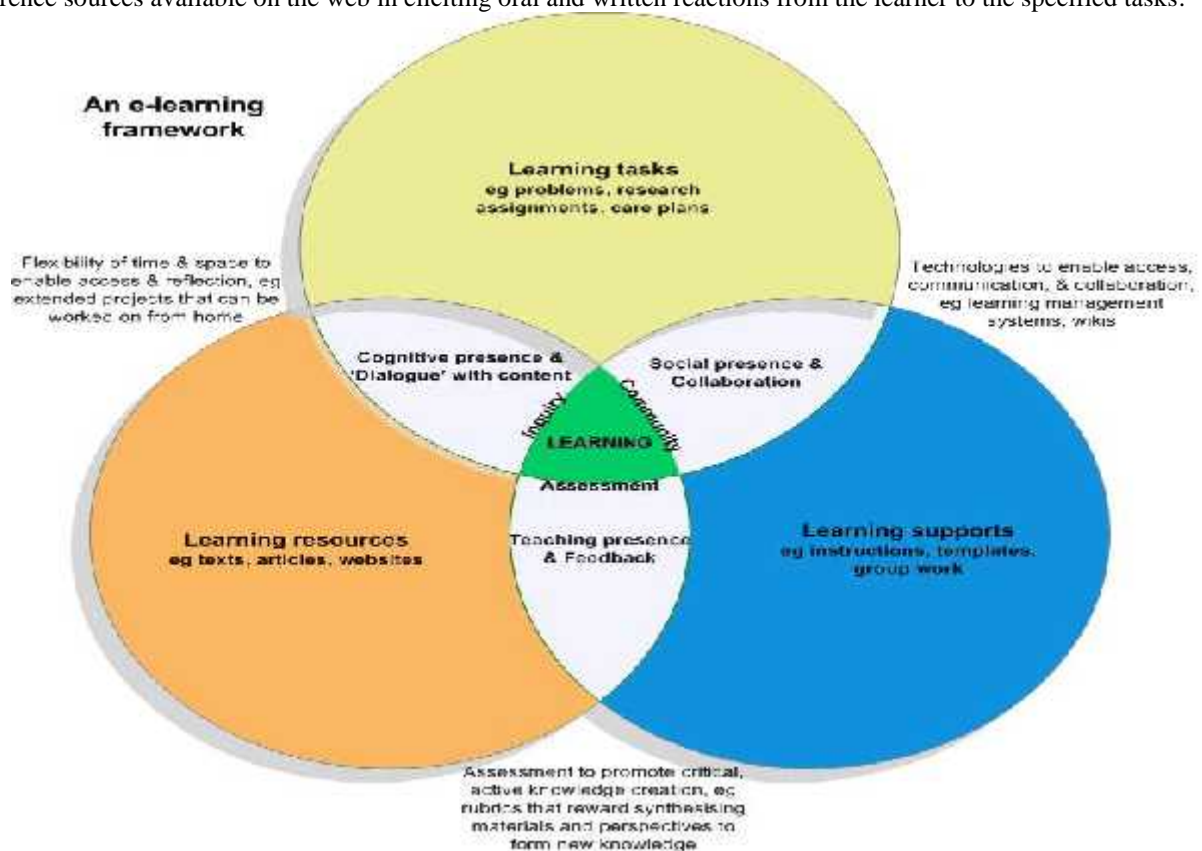
technology, language learning becomes a very effective way to enhance the basic communication proficiency of a leaner. So the need of the hour is now integrating pedagogy and technology in teaching of English.

Computer- assisted language learning (CALL) is the earliest technique of computer- based learning of any foreign language whose origins can be traced back to the 1960's . the philosophy of CALL puts a strong emphasis o learner- centered lessons that allow the learners to learn mostly on their own, using interactive lessons and tasks . in computer-based and multimedia enabled learning programmes, listening is combined with seeing. The learners also control the pace and the path of the interaction with reference to the level of learning they are in. also the use of a computer does not constitute a teaching method , but rather the computer forces pedagogy to develop and experiment innovative teaching methods that exploit the benefits of working with a computer.

The relevance of e-learning for English
The need for a state of the art language laboratory for the learners to improve their basic communication proficiency would be addressed chiefly with the installation of a computerized English language laboratory – digital classroom in educational institutions. The language lab facility and other related resources could be utilized with the primary purpose of helping the learners to improve their basic communication skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. The language lab should not be a conventional lab with a Glottophone and cassette recorders. It should be designed and installed as a computerized language lab or digital classroom with a server and required number of client systems (with the right configuration) to teach the learners various interactive and learning techniques using multimedia enabled software or giving structured access to the internet for enhancing their basic language skills.

A language lab would increase instructional time and optimize the learner's time invested in learning a language. The lab facility would help teachers make efficient use of the time they devote to their learners. This innovative concept also involves the use of electronic gadgets and computers in teaching the learners the basics of language with focus on the improvement of their communication skills. In a computerized language lab set up , computer assisted learning is no longer limited to the listen and repeat exercises of the conventional audio lab; it can draw on multimedia files in CD ROMSs and the wealth of the online reference sources available on the web in eliciting oral and written reactions from the learner to the specified tasks.

The variety of exercises and the activities holds the learner's attention, while the frequency of response draws the learners in and makes language –learning a lot more compelling. In the language lab, the learners are exposed to many speakers of the language in a structured way, preparing them for the variety of voices, intonation and accents that they will encounter when meeting native speakers while travelling or living in a foreign country.

They can work up to the level of proficiency that will let them understand the contexts of multiple speakers. Thus the language lab is a technology based setup where learners can study whatever they want, whenever they prefer and enhance their English skills for academics, business or for their professional career. So the setting up of a computerized language lab enumerated and emphasized because it is the logical choice and the right path to produce more learners from educational institutions with the desired employability skills.

Aims and Objectives of the Study
The aim of the proposed project is to create a new attentiveness upon E-Learning which is necessary for technology based education and competence building as well as the appropriate qualifications to consolidate this profession.

The purpose of this study was to investigate how language teachers apply practical experiences from Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) software packages to their teaching. Another aim was to find out on what basis the appropriate software is chosen to be transacted in the classroom for developing various skills for the purpose of language acquisition .Finally; CALL is a fast developing area of language learning and teaching scenario. CALL software development is a booming industry in the field of modern education. The author of the study felt a need for a pedagogic criterion for them on the basis of cognitive and linguistic aspect of learning and teaching a language…

➢ To introduce the topic of e-learning.
➢ To state the merits of E-Learning for individualized instruction .
➢ To illustrate the user friendly teaching and learning tool for learners.
➢ To make the feel inspired and attracted to learn through the Internet.
➢ To help arouse the overall awareness of Internet – based teaching options to augment classes .
➢ To list out online tasks for English language teaching.
➢ To point out sites for English language learning
➢ To point out the advantages of e-learning and teaching beyond classrooms.

Data for the Study
The recent fast track development of the web based learning (WBL) from a text-only medium to an expanding multimedia communication system has increased an diversified delivery mechanisms of quality education, specifically for English language teaching. The following are studied as supportive data for the study:
✓ Online web based courses
✓ Interactive web pages
✓ Online Tutor For English
✓ Online check list and questionnaire
✓ Language learning software
✓ Websites for language teaching
✓ English Conversation Lessons
✓ Video English Lessons
✓ Text Analysis & Statistics
✓ Check a Word's Grammar and Usage
✓ Software Downloads

Methodology
Web based training (WBT) is an innovative approach to deliver training through the web, internet, intranet and extranet. The aim of this project is to describe the current state of development and adoption of e-learning for English language teaching at the graduate level. The essentially exploratory aim is to do a review study, with a complete theoretical frame work of various allied features of e-learning.

This project uses descriptive methodology to explore the components, tools, methods and materials of web based e-learning with reference to English language teaching and learning. An analysis of earlier studies showed that there is a need for a detailed study of e-learning, specific to language teaching skills and grammar.

Significance of the Study
Various features of e-English have been discussed in the current project study. This study will put some lime light on the contents of web-based e-learning. There are some exiting new developments in the use of WBT that are increasing the effectiveness of training English language teaching significantly. The major outcome of the explorative study highlights the improvements among the learners. The people taught through e-content module have recorded high achievements than the conventional class room teaching.

This study highlights the chance for autonomy for the learner in his own learning. It is computer mediated learning which entails communication between two or more peoples (teachers and students or among students) by integrating web based synchronous or asynchronous communication tools.

Teaching Language Skills Using Call and Multimedia
When the adapted and adopted material for language learning for a group of students is interesting, they pay more attention to listen, speak, read and write during the activities using the information provided through the computer. Cognition and Learning, Analysis, Design, Development, Implementation and Evaluation become important while theorizing and practicing computer-aided language learning to teach communication skills.
- Teaching Listening Skill
- Teaching Speaking Skill
- Listening And Speaking In Conjunction
- Teaching Pronunciation
- Teaching Reading Skill
- Teaching Writing Skill
- Learning Goals

Network Based Lang Teaching & Learning
What Is E- Learning?
E-Learning is learning on Internet time. It is the convergence of learning and the Internet. It uses the power of networks, primarily those that rely not only on Internet technologies but also satellite networks and digital content to enable learning. It is Internet – enabled learning. Components can include content delivery in multiple formats, management of learning experience, and a networked community of learners, content developers and experts. E-Learning provides faster learning at reduced costs, increased access to learning, and cheaper, and clear accountability for all participants in the learning process. In today's fast-paced culture, organization that implement E-Learning provide their workforce with the ability to turn changed into an advantage.

"E- Content is digital information derived over network based electronic devices, i.e. symbol that can be utilized and interpreted by human actors during communication processes, which allow them to share visions and influence each other's knowledge, attitude or behavior. E-Content allows for user involvement and may change according to the user's behavior. It is a subcategory both of digital and electronic content marked by the involvement of a network which leads to a constant renewal of content in tie with its dynamic change allows for a qualitative difference, thus making it e-Content**."**

E-learning may also comprise combinations of the foregoing types of activities. l E-learning is growing in popularity in all areas and levels of education and training. l The critical attributes of e-learning include flexibility of time, place and pace of study. l E-learning affords opportunities to design learning environments that are authentic, situated in the learning context, and also problem-based in order to provide students with "learning by doing" experiences.

- ❖ Growth of E-Learning
- ❖ Goals of E-Learning
- ❖ User Friendly
- ❖ Important Features of E-Learning
- ❖ Engaging
- ❖ Effective Solutions
- ❖ Benefits of E-Learning
- ❖ E-Learning Tools
- ❖ Levels of E-Learning
- ❖ Knowledge Databases
- ❖ Online Support
- ❖ Asynchronous Training
- ❖ Synchronous Training
- ❖ Need For Digital Classrooms
- ❖ Teacher's Role And Responsibility In E-Learning
- ❖ Materials And Modules
- ❖ Developing Oral Communication
- ❖ Inculcating Strategic Reading
- ❖ Text Based Web Learning
- ❖ Promoting Writing
- ❖ Perfecting Pronunciation Through Listening
- ❖ Interactive Web Based Learning

Language Lab
Role of Language Lab in English Language Teaching – Learning
Introduction of technology In Language teaching/learning
Emerging technologies make it practical to approach learning in ways that have been advocated by scientists, theorists, and educational psychologists for years. Advanced information technologies such as virtual reality, visualization, digital modeling, digitization, simulation, games, virtual worlds and intelligent one-on-one tutoring systems dramatically enhance teaching and learning of elusive concepts by translating abstractions into real-world contexts and providing customized instruction and individualized assessments. To realize the full potential of this technology and to ensure its pervasiveness in all institutions of learning and training, we must undertake a long-term, large-scale effort to research, develop, test and disseminate tools for building advanced learning systems.

Grammar Teaching
Using a free online grammar checker can be useful in certain circumstances. For example, students who are learning English as a second language may find that free online grammar checkers help them learn to more easily spot errors in their writing. The following are some resources of free online grammar checkers:

 * Spellchecker.net lets you copy and paste text into an online tool to quickly identify spelling and grammar errors. An online thesaurus is also available for your convenience.

 * AbiWord is a free open source word processing program that includes a grammar checker. It is supported on all of the most common operating systems, including Linux, Mac OS X (PowerPC), and Microsoft Windows. The interface is similar to Microsoft Word, making this program very easy to use. Import and export filters let you convert documents to HTML, Rich Text Format, and OpenDocument for greater convenience.

 * Language Tool is a free open source grammar checker that is designed to help users identify the most common grammatical mistakes in their text. Language Tool works to detect errors in English, German, Dutch, and Polish, but limited support is also available for French, Spanish and Italian. However, it is important to realize that Language Tool does not contain a spell checking program.

 * Grammar Slammer is a spelling and grammar checker that uses a taskbar and integrated search to help identify errors in a document and suggest corrected text. You can download a free 21 day trial of this program or purchase the full version of the software for $49.

Computer Adaptive Testing
The computer assisted /adaptive testing refers practices requiring a computer to assist in construction, analysis and reporting. CAT has received very positive reviews from testing specialists and the test makers as well. The benefits associated with this

method of assessing language skills, knowledge or performance are well documented in the publications of the proponents of this technology. Through CAT, one can present problems, test the students' knowledge and understanding, make judgment on students responses keep the record of that performance and measure in the student language gain and maintenance in a systematics manner it can allow the examinees to go through the process in their own face and thereby allowing the slow learners to attend the test taking process confidently. It provides creator accuracy and clarity in scoring and reliability in testing. Online testing is also being adopted in our country.

Bocji and Greasley (1999) conducted a long term study on computer based assessments with under graduate students and their findings are summarized as follows:

- Students find computer based tests less threatening then the conventional examinations.
- Students regard computer based testing to be more impartial than accurate conventional tests.
- Formative computer based assessments may help to improve the long term recall of key concepts.

Some Examples
Vocabulary Tests
Read the sentences below and decide which of these words best fits each space. You may need to change the form of the word.

redolent; incapable; precluded; rite; confer; rendering; correlation; prevail; officiating; deploy; criterion; reminiscent; clarified; obey; bestow.

1 - The small number of students have _____ the school from offering as many courses this year.

2 - Magda is _____ the book into Polish from English.

3 - Could you _____ the first point please? I don't understand it completely.

4 - There's little _____ between success in life and a university degree.

5 - This is a strange custom that still _____ .

Phrasal Verbs
- ind out
- get on with
- hold on
- get away
- take after
- cut down
- look after

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- come up with
- add up
- put through
- look for
- get over
- turn up
- put off

- Have you [-- ▼] if you won the competition yet?

- I need to [-- ▼] from work and take a holiday.

- She still hasn't [-- ▼] the death of her cat.

- My daughter is a great cook, she really [-- ▼] her mother.

- Could you [-- ▼] a moment while I see if Marek is in his office?

- Extension 28? I'll [-- ▼].

- She promised to [-- ▼] her cigarette smoking to six a day.

- He spent the entire night thinking and in the end [-- ▼] a brilliant idea.

- I'm afraid your story is not believable. It just doesn't [-- ▼].

Similarly many tests are available for homonyms, synonym and antonym, anagrams, word groups, gap-fill exercises, television and the media, Grammar Exercises and Tests and puzzles and Quizzes etc. It is quite evident that the computer technology is going to play a bigger role in the educational enterprises in the future. It offers test developers new configurations of test methods and various options for presenting input material in a variety of media, including graphics, text, and audio- video as well as in user control of the input besides the others.

Conclusion
Language occupies an important place in human life for communication. It is the vehicle for social interaction. A human experience is shared through language. Language is based on a set of definite rules it is man-made. English is the most widely spoken language in the world. English functions as a link language. Therefore, the importance of learning English as a second language is realized in India and steps are initiated to improve the existing English language teaching in the college curriculum. The students must be in a position to use English language effectively, in a real situation, apart from the class-room use.

Merits E-Learning
- ➢ Computers are good to motivate students.
- ➢ Student's learning becomes more individualized and autonomous
- ➢ Teachers take role of an advisor and a facilitator.
- ➢ The teaching resources can be stored for a longer time and shared by other teachers and students.
- ➢ The communication between students and teachers are strengthened with the help of Internet.
- ➢ Computers can help overcome barriers of space and time.
- ➢ Real life situation
- ➢ Native speaker's pronunciation
- ➢ Time Management & Accuracy

Demerits E-Learning
- ➢ Computers can only do what they are programmed to do
- ➢ Computers may cut the students from the classroom environment
- ➢ Computers are very expensive
- ➢ Computers may have technical problems and then break down

➢ Both teachers and students need training to learn to use computers

The importance of English and the demand for it notwithstanding, the teaching of English in India at the college level is still fraught with a multitude of difficulties and obstacles. The lack of any significant changes in the English language curricula, teaching methodology, and the examination system, and the persistence of the Herculean task of teaching English in very large classes are truly saddening. Their willingness to put sufficient effort in mastering English is undoubtedly rooted in their desire to succeed in the cut-throat competition in the job market, where many a successful career is strongly tied to the jobseekers' proficiency in English.

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