

# Enhancing Speaking Skills through Efficacy of Multimedia in Tertiary Education

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**Abstract:** The object of the present study is to enhance speaking skills through efficacy of multimedia. Speaking is the most important tool of communication. One of the main concern of language learners is how to improve their speaking proficiency in general and different components of situation. Speaking proficiency such as fluency, accuracy, accent, vocabulary, comprehension which help us speak the language fluently. In the fast developing 21<sup>st</sup> century various innovative technologies are being introduced to teach speaking skills in the classroom. The present world is driven by technology, which cannot be denied. It is the means to get access with this modernized world. Though technology cannot play the crucial role of a teacher, it can be used as an additional tool for improving speaking skills in classroom i.e., internet, podcast, video conferencing, videos and speech recognition, TELL, are considered to be source of the best tool of teaching speaking skill. Apart from that in tertiary education students come from different back ground therefore use of technology is inevitable. Because of having huge classroom size and lack of facility it is best tool for tertiary education to improve speaking skill.

**Keywords:** Modern technologies, Enhancing Speaking Skill, fluency and tertiary education.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Speaking is considered to be one of the most important skill of a language in learning a second or foreign language. In the rapid developing 21<sup>st</sup> century various innovative technologies are being introduced to teach English in the classrooms. Students have to update their knowledge by using modern technologies otherwise they will be relegated into real world.

According to (Brown & Yule, 1983) speaking is the skill that the students will be judged upon most in real life situation. (Sokolik, 2010) Observes machines are now used as tools for communication rather than simply as way of delivering automated drills or exercises. The various features involved in speaking we form sentences when we speak, the sentence are made of words, which in turn are combination of syllables.

## II. THE MEANING OF FLUENCY

(Balčytytė-Kurtinienė, 2014) holds that fluency means the capacity to use language in real time and accuracy means the ability to avoid error in performance. The stages in physical speech mechanism are presented and are listed as follows:

1. Initiation or Respiration (the lungs provide the energy source);
2. Phonation (the vocal folds convert the energy into an audible sound);
3. The Oronasal Process (the soft palate distributes the audible sound into the oral cavity or nasal cavity);
4. Articulation (the organs of speech transform the sound into an intelligible speech sound)

(Segalowitz, 2010) and (Kormos, 2006) proposes to distinguish between three different senses of the fluency

- 1) **Cognitive fluency:** refers to the underlying cognitive machinery that transforms the intended message into spoken language. In original metaphor of flow, if this machinery is efficient, the process will be smooth and effortless.
- 2) **Utterance fluency:** refers to the surface properties of speech i.e., rate of speech, pauses, hesitation, repetition, and reformulation.
- 3) **Perceived fluency:** It focuses on the listener's impressions and the inferences they make about a speaker's cognitive fluency based on their preparation of utterance fluency.

In case of Indian languages the spelling helps us to pronounce the words correctly. But in case of English there is no 1:1 relationship between spelling and sounds, sometimes the same spelling may be used for different sounds. Look at these words: **church**, **machine**, **chorus**, the spelling 'ch' in all these words have different sounds. The international Phonetic Association (IPA) has described how each sound is produced, they have also assigned symbols to represent these sounds.

## III. TERTIARY EDUCATION/POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Tertiary education refers to any type of education beyond the high school level. This includes diplomas, undergraduate and graduate certificates and associates, masters and doctoral degrees.

### *Aim of Tertiary Education*

- i) To educate the youth to become active and productive member of society.
- ii) It seeks to meet and match industry demand with a competent and globally competitive workforce.

( Jackson, 2000)For example: In secondary school classes are still small (upto 20-30 students) and you rotate between teachers, classrooms and students. But in tertiary institutions, you are getting certification for what you will spend the rest of your life long, classes can be from 100-500+students with one professor. And teachers/professors will not hold your hand and you are going to be very independent and you may have entire days without classes, one class a day etc .(Varghese, 2014)Focusing on entrepreneurial education technical/vocational as a means of improving the employability of tertiary education graduates.

#### *Two Main Reasons to Select Tertiary Education*

- i) Tertiary education based on individual and self-learning and it included all technical and vocational educations mostly because its aim is to become active and productive member of society.so technology can be useful more better to tertiary education than secondary education.
- ii) Second reason is in tertiary education it is not easy to maintain lecturer to 300 members a class at time and students are followed by their own schedule.so for many reasons multimedia acts as main role to learn language skills and complete their course in English medium as(EMI) successfully. And communicate them to develop speaking fluency skills. In addition that technology gives learners a chance to engage independently, provide opportunities for self-paced interactions, privacy and self-environment where mistakes are corrected and exact feedback is given.so assuredly it is best tool for tertiary education.

#### IV. LITERATURE REVIEW

(RIGGENBACH & KOPONEN, 2000)) the word 'fluency and fluent' come from the latin word fluens. fluency as the quality of flowing, smoothness. Thomson(2004 p.661) (murray j.munro, 2004)of foreign language speech for a variety of reasons.To be able to improve their language skills use Internet, software programmes . (p.steenkamp, 2013) Students currently studying at tertiary institutions have developed a set of attitudes and aptitudes as a result of growing up in an IT and media rich environment. These attitude and aptitude influence how they learn and in order to be effective lecturers must adapt to address their learning preference and use the online teaching tool. (Katz, 2009))"SMS-Based learning in tertiary education" in this topic he said "The learning of vocabulary and concept of learning ,SMS-Based learning has advanced rapidly and becoming an integral part of the learning process in many universities through world.

#### V. BODY OF THE STUDY

The availability of a variety of media technologies allows users to use certain videos and audios,as well as record audio-video files in a reasonably leading to learning environment

(Odhabi, 2009) The current technology lightens up the mind of the tertiary students to get into the subject with full involvement rather than a complex task to do and language can be learnt by imitation and learnt as they speak in mother tongue.so these following technical tools useful to develop their speaking fluency skill.

#### *Modern Technologies in Developing Speaking Skill*

They are: i) Communication lab ii) Video conferencing iii) Video Library iv) CALL (Computer Assisted Language Learning) V) MALL (mobile assisted language learning) vi) Speech recognition software vii) Internet viii)TELL (Technology Enhanced Language Learning) xi) Pod casting x) Video tape xi) Quick Link Pen xii) Quicktionary and The Web.

- i. **Communication lab:** Software's are accessible in language lab to improve speaking skills. The students have a chance to play it again and again without feeling boredom. Listening Skills allow the person to understand what other person speaks. So the students feel interest and try to listen ,record and practice through headphones in the labs and create interest to learn and repeat again and again on the subject. (Clark, 1994)
- ii. **Video conferencing:** Video Conferencing is the gateway where one can access the speech of others across the universe (Lawson, 2010)It is the live relay programme where students get the best opportunity to post the questions immediately and get a platform to get the answers for their queries from the experts.
- iii. **Video library:** It is most helpful for the absentia students. This is vividly helpful for the students who do not attend an important session or lecture. The teaching faculty records the lessons and made available to the learners and the students have a scope to play and listen to them in their leisure time, as many times as they can and understand the concept excellently.
- iv. **CALL:** The educational role of Computers in learning a second language and the role of CALL (Computer Assisted Language Learning) is significant The teacher can use the latest technologies, which have the potential to transform the students from passive recipients of information into active participants. CALL is defined as the search for and study of applications of the Computer in language teaching and learning .Computer assisted language learning have been found to promote foreign language learning effectively. These courses can give students flexibility to work independently, at their own pace in order to promote English language acquisition (MUTLU, 2013).
- v. **MALL(Mobile Assisted Language Learning):**Mobile phones can also be utilized to enrich vocabulary skills by receiving new words daily. There are many apps which can improve their vocabulary and give

new words and its origin, thesaurus etc every day. The students' needs to link with the websites in their mobile phones and makes the learners to get chance to learn new words regularly. (Zhang, 2011).

- vi. **Speech Recognition Software:** This software helps the student to improve speaking skills, which convert spoken form to machine-readable input. It recognizes the accuracy of the learner and provides feedback and encourages the learner to practice again till they get proficiency. forms, for examples if a student mispronounces a word, the learning tool can immediately spot it and help to correct it. This device can be a very useful device for distance learners because they don't have a teacher who corrects their speech and this device can help improving their speaking skills. (Hornik K, 2010) (Placeholder1).
- vii. **Internet:** The use of Internet is widely used by the man across the globe. In the process of learning, students use this aid in the classroom to learn English where they Google the suitable materials for their topics. The teachers also instruct the students to collect the information and participate among the friends for discussions. For these, the students browse the different applications and online teaching aids and materials like Skype, MSM Messenger etc and grow themselves by connecting with friends, other students, teachers, experts and improve their oral proficiency with the native speakers.
- viii. **TELL (Technology Enhanced Language Learning):** TELL is the use of computer technology including hardware, software and the Internet to enhance teaching and learning of languages. It helps the students to get access with all the technologies available for the enhancement of English learning. Students are allowed to use online dictionaries, chat, and to view the diverse happenings around the globe.
- ix. **Pod casting:** Podcasts helps to upload or download the audio file with the target language and the teacher can use them as useful audio material for the classroom activities like discussions. Besides, these can include pronunciation for learning different accents. It helps the students to improve speaking skills. The students can make use of these files inside and outside the classrooms in the form of entertainment as the part of their education. (Vijayalakshmi, 2009) "as an ideal and very effective tool for language learning.
- x. **Video Tapes:** Video Tapes helps the learners to learn drama, one-act play and monologues where scenes from popular English films can be screened first without any running script on the scene. Then the students are asked to find out the words, script etc., Again the scene will be repeated with the scripts on the scene. This kind

of telecasting videotape with and without script makes the students to get access with the pronunciation, accent and word usage of English with interest. This method will make the students to repeat it again in their homes voluntarily.

- xi. **Quick Link Pen :** Quick Link Pen allows learners to copy and store printed text, Internet links. It helps to transfer the data to computers and enables the reader to get the meaning of the word from a built in dictionary. Accessing this type of machine seems to be a more convenient method. Recent developments in machine translations presents translation engines like GO Translator.
- xii. **Quicktionary:** It is a pen-like device. It allows the reader to easily scan the word and get its definition and phonetic translation on its own LCD screen. Technology such as Enounce and Sound-Editor enable learners to adjust the speech rate of listening materials to assist their comprehension, and present spectrum of speech waves and visual depictions of mouth and tongue movement to ease the learning and refine pronunciation. (Chirag, 2003) (O'Reilly, 2013).
- xiii. **The web:** There are many "self –exercises "in the internet English exercises online at [www.smic.be](http://www.smic.be) has over 100 free exercises covering grammar and vocabulary. Another interactive site is [www.eslgo.com](http://www.eslgo.com) in this site a student can learn the internet as advancedtool.

## VI. CONCLUSION

Web 2.0 offers possibilities to improve speaking fluency skills, self-expression, and comprehension .According to (Brown J. D., 1992), social utilities such as Facebook and Twitter provide many communicative variances for online community development. As a result, the following concluding remarks and recommendations can be recorded i.e., The impact of Technology in the medium of education had become necessary. It can be viewed as an integral part of the activity of speaking skill. Modern technological tools provide fun and allow for learning by motivating the students and help them to improve their speaking skills in a fruitful way. And tertiary education involves all technical and vocational courses so it is best to motivate them into self-learning and self-access.

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