#### TEACHING VOCABULARY THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

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**Abstract:** Vocabulary development is one of the most crucial skills to teach in young students. A learner will benefit much from having a large vocabulary. Increasing one's vocabulary, for example, enhances reading comprehension and writing skills. According to an expert, "Effective vocabulary instruction across grade levels and content areas is a key in increasing student learning and achievement." There are tried-and-true instructional methods for helping students expand their vocabulary.

**Key words:** vocabulary, apps, digital technology, multimedia technologies, language learning, vocabulary growth.

Much academic study has been conducted in order to incorporate modern technologies into various vocabulary teaching strategies. The Internet and multimedia technologies have the potential to be valuable partners in this effort. Teachers can utilize a variety of digital technologies to encourage students' enthusiasm in learning new words. In the previous three decades, digital technology has grown at a breakneck pace. As a result, educational techniques must benefit from these advancements as well. Almost all schools and universities in developed countries, such as the United States, have Internet connection. "Access to the Internet will be universal due to the many low-cost mobile phones available," according to experts. As a result, teachers should make use of these resources.

Digital technology affects our daily lives. However, it has not been widely adopted in the classroom for unknown reasons. Teaching vocabulary, in particular, has not integrated much digital technologies. Despite the fact that the technology is readily available, this has not yet occurred.

According to Graves (2009), Stahl & Nagy (2006), the vocabulary learning task for adult learners of English as a second language (ESL) is an enormous undertaking. Upon graduation from high school, the average native speaker knows approximately 40,000 to 50,000 words (cited in Nisbet & Austin, 2013). By extension, adult English learners must quickly acquire a significant quantity of vocabulary information in order to engage effectively and fluently with native speakers in professional, educational, and social settings. The sheer number of

words to learn might be intimidating. Clearly, only a small portion of the vocabulary to be learnt can be taught directly in the ESL classroom.

Watts-Taffe & Gwinn (2007) noted that while the topic of teachers' use of technology has received increased attention, the National Center for Education Statistics (2000) reported that most teachers feel less than well prepared to use new technologies (computer software programs and Internet applications) for instruction (cited in Huang, 2015).

## **DICTIONARY APPS**

ESL teachers and students no longer need to carry bulky, burdensome dictionaries, thesauruses, and/or other reference materials. Dictionary.com-Dictionary & Thesaurus and TheFreeDictionary are two popular apps that can replace numerous reference books.



The Dictionary.com app includes two million definitions as well as a thesaurus to help you find synonyms and antonyms. It includes sample sentences, audio pronunciation, and a voice search feature. This can be quite useful for students who need to know not only the spelling and meaning of a word, but also how to pronounce it. TheFreeDictionary is one of the most extensive dictionary apps. It includes a dictionary, a thesaurus, acronyms, abbreviations, idioms, an encyclopedia, and a literature reference library. Users can also create a personalized homepage that includes games, a language forum, a word of the day, spelling bees, word games, and much more.

# English LaunchPad App



This multifunctional language software includes a wide range of functions and activities. The software includes over 700 flash cards with photos divided into 20 categories, covering topics such as the alphabet, anatomy, animals, appliances, food and drink, fruits, household terms, and many others. There are also 51 irregular verb flashcards. When studying vocabulary, the flashcards can be utilized for enrichment, instruction, or differentiated learning. There are also whiteboards, a quiz generator, an electronic file for saving and sending lesson

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plans, and a grammar quiz with 900 questions on grammar structures. The flashcard method can help students acquire new vocabulary words, and the quiz generator can be used to track their progress.

**CLEAR SPEECH APP** 



The Clear Speech app is built on the Cambridge University Press is a publishing house based in Cambridge, England. This app is intended to assist. Students enhance their listening abilities. Because it can help students improve their pronunciation and also assist to acquire vocabulary. Students "train" their ears" to detect major variations in word and syllable stress, intonation, and other factors. They also improve their ability to recognize word endings and learning new words through ordinary listening activities. The software features ten levels of difficulty interactive listening activities developed for students who appreciate using computers for education. Ball Toss is one of the games. It assists kids in identifying ending sounds. Basketball allows pupils to practice listening for syllables. The Stop or Flow game teaches word sounds while Push the Blob teaches stress patterns. The app can be used in conjunction with or independently of the Clear Speech series to provide listening practice.



Idioms is an app that teaches students the top 100 most commonly used idioms and idioms used in discussion topics such as animals, business, clothes and colors, food, legalities, and negotiations. Students learn through selfadministering quizzes on themes of their choosing. A convenient alphabetical index of frequent idioms is also provided for simple reference. This is entertaining and enjoyable software that can be used for vocabulary development. This software is quite popular among students because to the appeal of idioms.