IMPROVING ENGLISH PROFICIENCY FROM A1 TO B2 LEVEL USING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

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Abstract. Digital technologies have become an essential component of modern education, especially in the field of language learning. They provide learners with new opportunities to access educational materials, communicate with speakers of other languages, and develop language skills in interactive environments. Researchers emphasize that technology-enhanced learning environments increase motivation and provide flexible learning conditions for students[7]. This article explores how digital technologies help learners progress from the A1 level to the B2 level of English according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The study focuses on the use of digital tools such as mobile applications, multimedia resources, online courses, and communication platforms. These tools support vocabulary acquisition, listening comprehension, speaking practice, and learner autonomy.[8] The findings suggest that consistent use of digital technologies can significantly accelerate language learning and help learners achieve higher levels of language proficiency.

Keywords: digital technology, English learning, CEFR levels, A1 level, B2 level, online learning, language acquisition

Introduction. The development of digital technologies has significantly transformed the educational process in the 21st century. Language learning, in particular, has benefited greatly from the integration of digital tools into teaching and learning practices. Digital platforms provide learners with access to authentic materials, interactive exercises, and opportunities for communication beyond the classroom[9]

In traditional language learning environments, students often relied mainly on textbooks and classroom instruction. However, modern digital technologies allow learners to access multimedia resources such as videos, podcasts, and online articles that expose them to real-life language use. Researchers note that this exposure improves both comprehension and communication skills.[10]

One of the most widely recognized frameworks for describing language proficiency is the **Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)**. According to CEFR, language proficiency is divided into several levels ranging from A1 (beginner) to C2 (advanced). At the A1 level, learners are able to understand simple expressions and basic phrases used in everyday situations. At the B2

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[8] Hubbard, P. *Teaching and Researching Computer-Assisted Language Learning*. Routledge. -2019. -p.18.
[9] Hubbard, P. *Teaching and Researching Computer-Assisted Language Learning*. Routledge. -2019. -p.22.
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level, however, learners are capable of understanding complex texts and communicating fluently in various contexts.[11]

Progressing from A1 to B2 requires consistent practice, exposure to authentic language input, and effective learning strategies. Digital technologies can support this development by providing learners with continuous access to learning resources and opportunities for interaction with other speakers.[12]

Strategies for Progressing from A1 to B2 Using Digital Technologies

Digital Vocabulary Development

Vocabulary acquisition is one of the most important aspects of language learning. Without sufficient vocabulary, learners cannot effectively understand or produce language. Digital tools such as vocabulary applications, online flashcards, and spaced repetition systems help learners memorize new words more efficiently.

Research shows that spaced repetition systems improve long-term vocabulary retention by presenting words repeatedly over increasing intervals of time.[13] This approach helps learners move from basic vocabulary knowledge at the A1 level to more advanced lexical competence required at the B2 level.

In addition, online dictionaries and language corpora provide contextual examples of word usage. Contextual learning allows students to understand not only the meaning of words but also how they are used in real communication.[14]

Listening Skills Through Multimedia Resources

Listening comprehension is another essential skill for language development. Digital technologies provide access to a wide variety of multimedia materials such as podcasts, films, lectures, and online videos. These resources expose learners to authentic speech patterns and different accents.

According to multimedia learning theory, the combination of visual and auditory information improves comprehension and memory retention.[15] When learners watch videos or listen to podcasts, they process both sound and visual cues, which helps them understand meaning more effectively.

Regular listening practice also helps learners adapt to natural speech speed and develop better pronunciation awareness. Over time, this exposure helps learners progress from understanding simple spoken phrases to comprehending more complex conversations and discussions.[16]

Speaking Practice Through Online Communication

Speaking is often considered one of the most difficult language skills to master. Many learners lack opportunities to practice speaking in real communication situations. Digital technologies, however, provide new opportunities for interaction through online communication platforms.

Video conferencing tools, language exchange applications, and online discussion forums enable learners to communicate with speakers from different parts of the world.

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[13] Nation, I. S. P. *Learning Vocabulary in Another Language*. Cambridge University Press. -2013. -p.92.

[14] Schmitt, N. *Researching Vocabulary*. Palgrave Macmillan. -2010. -p.58.

[15] Mayer, R. *Multimedia Learning*. Cambridge University Press -2009. -p.63.

[16] Mayer, R. *Multimedia Learning*. Cambridge University Press -2009. -p.74.

Interaction with native or proficient speakers helps learners improve fluency and communicative competence.[17]

In addition, online communication reduces anxiety for many learners. When students practice speaking in supportive digital environments, they gradually gain confidence in expressing their ideas and opinions in English.[18]

Autonomous Learning Through Digital Platforms

One of the most significant advantages of digital technologies is the promotion of learner autonomy. Autonomous learning refers to the ability of learners to take responsibility for their own learning process.

Digital platforms provide learners with access to online courses, interactive exercises, and educational resources that can be used independently. Studies show that autonomous learners are often more motivated and achieve better learning outcomes.[19]

Language learning applications also provide immediate feedback on grammar, pronunciation, and vocabulary usage. This feedback helps learners identify their mistakes and improve their language skills more effectively.[20]

Conclusion. Digital technologies have become an important part of modern language education. They provide learners with flexible access to learning materials and create interactive environments that support language development. Through the use of mobile applications, multimedia resources, and online communication platforms, learners can practice language skills more frequently and effectively.

The analysis presented in this article demonstrates that digital technologies play a crucial role in helping learners progress from the A1 level to the B2 level of English. These tools support vocabulary acquisition, listening comprehension, speaking practice, and autonomous learning.

Therefore, integrating digital technologies into language learning can significantly improve learning outcomes and help students achieve higher levels of language proficiency.

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