



**XORIJY TILLARNI O'QITISHDA INNOVATSION
YONDASHUVLAR NAZARIYANING AMALIYOTGA TATBIQI**
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**THE ROLE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN COLLABORATIVE ENGLISH
LANGUAGE LEARNING**

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Abstract. *This study examines how two individuals use social media to learn English as a foreign language (EFL). Social media has become an integral part of adult learners' lives, providing opportunities to enhance their English skills through various digital platforms. English educators increasingly encourage adult learners to integrate technology into their language-learning process. Self-motivated learners actively engage in social media platforms such as Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp, blogs, YouTube, Twitter, Telegram, and Snapchat to practice and improve their English through texting, speaking, and networking with others. The rapid advancement of modern electronic devices – including smartphones, tablets, laptops, and smartwatches – has facilitated greater accessibility, mobility, and flexibility in language learning. Additionally, international testing agencies and educational institutions have developed mobile applications tailored for EFL learners, available both formally and informally.*

This research critically explores personal experiences with various social media platforms, their roles in EFL learning, innovative learning methods, and their pedagogical potential for adult learners. By leveraging these digital tools, learners can acquire specific language skills both inside and outside the classroom. However, the use of social media for language learning should be approached strategically to maximize its benefits. Ultimately, social media serves as a valuable resource that enhances adult learners' English proficiency in diverse and dynamic ways.

Keywords: *modern electronic devices, EFL learners, innovative learning methods, English proficiency, captivating learning settings, collaborative learning programs, higher-order thinking abilities, live forum debates.*

Introduction

Social media has developed into a potent instrument for cooperation, communication, and education in the modern digital world. It has revolutionized language learning, particularly English, by giving students all around the world access to dynamic and captivating learning settings. This article examines the ways in which social media promotes group English language instruction, giving students access to a variety of digital online venues for practice, interaction, and language improvement. I will outline some advantages of enhancing and growing social media in English language learning.



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1. *Enhancing Communication and Interaction*

One of the most major advantages of social media is its capacity to link individuals from around the world. For example, family and loved ones in distant nations can be readily contacted. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and WhatsApp enable learners to participate in discussions, comment on postings, and communicate with native and non-native speakers. This communication enables students to develop their writing, communication, and speaking abilities while being acquainted with casual and natural language use.

Messaging applications such as WhatsApp, Telegram, and Instagram promote collaborative learning by allowing students to form group conversations, exchange audio messages, and address self-problems, as well as various discussions and courses, online. These platforms encourage active involvement, allowing learners to participate English in a social and dynamic setting. In general, social media/sites allow students to communicate and exchange material with colleagues, as well as help them create connections with others (Cain, 2008).

2. *Exposure to Authentic Language*

Learners may access authentic English information through social media, which exposes them to varied accents, expressions, and real-life language usage. Following English-speaking influencers, instructors, and news pages on platforms such as YouTube, Instagram, and Twitter allows learners to remain up to date on current vocabulary.

Furthermore, video-based sites such as TikTok and YouTube provide brief, entertaining English courses, pronunciation and translation hints, and story content. Many of these videos feature subtitles, which help learners understand and improve their listening and comprehension abilities.

3. *Encouraging Collaborative Learning*

Social media promotes peer-to-peer learning, which allows students to exchange resources, correct one another's mistakes, and practice together. Online study groups and international forums, including Reddit, Discord, and Facebook Groups, let students ask questions, debate grammar and vocabulary, and participate in language challenges. Moreover, collaborative learning programs such as Duolingo and HelloTalk incorporate social media components, allowing students to communicate with language partners, receive feedback, and take part in interactive activities. This strategy makes language learning more pleasant and successful.

4. *Improving Writing and Reading Skills*



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Social networking sites encourage students to routinely write and read in English. Learners can practice their writing abilities in an informal atmosphere by sending tweets, creating Facebook posts, or participating in blog conversations. Reading comments, news stories, scented books, and posts also helps kids increase their vocabulary and comprehend various writing styles. Platforms such as Medium and LinkedIn allow learners to post English-language articles. This improves formal writing abilities, which are required for academic and professional objectives.

5. *Motivation and Engagement Through Gamification*

Many social media networks use gamification features like badges, challenges, and awards to make language learning more entertaining. Language learning communities on platforms such as Duolingo, Memrise, and Busuu encourage students to compete and create objectives. Challenges like the “Word of the Day” trend on Instagram and English-learning hashtags on Twitter provide a fun and dynamic learning experience. These exercises help students stay motivated and consistent with their English practice.

Main part

The changing educational landscape and integration of technology have created a new area for collaborative learning. This method comprises a group of two or more students collaborating to perform the prescribed assignment. Students working in groups rely on one another’s abilities and knowledge to complete the assignment. In such an environment, kids may seek assistance from their classmates with specific difficulties, therefore developing social skills, creativity, and problem-solving abilities. These abilities will help students survive and succeed in their jobs. The usage of social media encourages a collaborative learning environment by providing digital tools and allowing a broad community to participate and share their ideas. It allows professors and students to connect regardless of their physical location.

Collaborative learning encourages students to be more imaginative and improves communication via group discussions. Social media platforms make these connections more open, and students share their expertise and experiences. These group exercises teach students how to convey their views and manage their time. Working in groups allows students to learn about peer strengths, address group learning needs, collaborate, manage issues, and establish consensus. Social media can help students engage in active learning by allowing them to efficiently exchange learning resources, information, and discussions (Al-Maatouk et al., 2020).



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More than 40 studies in elementary, middle, and high school English classes found that discussion-based methods increased critical thinking, text comprehension, and other skills. Interestingly, even talks that lasted only 10 to 15 minutes in class improved their perceived grasp of the text's essential themes and allowed students to think beyond the text.

Students can utilize a variety of social media sites for instructional purposes, which are driven by many languages, including regional languages, and offer varying material quality. Given the high degree of student participation on social media, many schools have used it for community building, increasing awareness, and developing communication and higher-order thinking abilities among students. Social media also promotes uplifting, motivating, and informative information. For instance, schools work with students to create social media campaigns to promote awareness about climate change, sustainability, and other social concerns. Participating in such activities helps kids develop leadership, empathy, positive thinking, and competitiveness. These skills will help individuals face future obstacles by improving their critical thinking and analytical abilities. Even the smallest improvement brought about in society by these programs boosts kids' confidence and encourages them to succeed.

Students connect with relevant material via social media technologies such as blogs, Reddit, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, Skype, Pinterest, Canva, LinkedIn, YouTube, and a variety of short video platforms. Furthermore, positive debates and conversations started by instructors on these platforms might assist students in improving their formal communication abilities. Currently, the authority believes that social media may increase student involvement, and those who dislike reading may be persuaded to read using eye-catching animations and interesting presentations.

Online material, open letters, articles, news, e-books, and information transferred online provide a limitless number of opportunities to encourage kids to study and expand their knowledge base, perhaps improving their higher-order thinking abilities. In addition, the necessity to distinguish oneself on social media by providing original or fresh material will push students to think creatively and innovatively. Educators may use these characteristics of social media to bring out the best in their pupils while also developing their digital skills and fluency. It can involve activities such as a real-world mystery on social media that students can solve



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together. Students can also organize live forum debates to practice higher-order thinking abilities.

The obligation to obey rules. However, the information seen on social media should be properly governed. Students are at significant risk of being exposed to age-inappropriate information, sexual exploitation, fraud, and cyberbullying. Forming new policies may assist, but if kids are interested in learning more, instructors may teach them about the rules and the importance of following them. They should also be informed of the privacy regulations of many websites that offer research and writing resources.

The use of social media and mobile devices brings both advantages and disadvantages, with the majority of the benefits recognized in terms of accessing course information, video clips, transferring instructional notes, and so on. Overall, students believe that social media and mobile devices are inexpensive and easy methods of receiving useful information. Studies in western nations have found that using online social media for collaborative learning improves students' academic performance and happiness (Zhu, 2012). The goal of this study project was to investigate how the integration and application of mobile devices in resource sharing, engagement with colleagues, and student academic performance influenced learning and teaching activities at higher education institutions. The overarching purpose of this study was to update students' in-depth perceptions of mobile devices and social media in learning and teaching activities.

According to the dictionary, "Social media is websites and applications that enable users to create and share content or participate in social networking." Social media is more than just putting Christmas photographs online. Social media has gained respect over time as a reputable source of information and a platform for enterprises to communicate with their audiences.

Social Media in Education: Today, we see educational institutions incorporating these advancements into their systems and depending on group resources and methods to better student life. The use of social media in education allows students, instructors, and parents to obtain more helpful material, connect with learning groups, and access other educational systems that make learning more comfortable.

Social networking platforms provide students and institutions with several options to improve learning techniques. These networks allow you to add social media plugins that enable sharing and engagement.



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Learning through social media is an endeavor to foster learning that can take place at any time and from any location. Facebook and WhatsApp are popular social media platforms among students; therefore, they are welcomed and used for official and informal learning activities. This is encouraged since social media is already popular among students and simple to use, so it can be utilized to supplement learning activities (Alalwan et al., 2019; Atkins et al., 2017; Dennen et al., 2020).

5 Unbelievable Benefits of Social Media for Students:

Social media is expanding its wings, and we are all striving to hop on board. However, when it comes to the benefits of social media for kids, we frequently mistake or reject them outright. Even if social media has been shown to have a negative influence on student life, it also has certain advantages that are worth debating and utilizing. Therefore, it is vital that we exploit it to its full potential. In this article, I will examine five of the benefits of social networking for students and their academics.

1. Enhanced Learning and Knowledge Sharing

Social media provides kids with a huge array of educational tools outside of the classroom. YouTube is packed with instructional videos on every conceivable subject, and Facebook groups dedicated to certain courses or disciplines allow students to interact with peers, exchange study materials, ask questions, and learn more. Furthermore, colleges and educational institutions now provide live-streamed lectures and webinars, allowing students to learn from professionals all around the world without leaving their homes.

2. Improved Collaboration and Communication

Social media enables seamless collaboration on group projects with platforms such as Google Docs, which allow for real-time document editing and shared access. Online whiteboards allow for brainstorming sessions and visual collaboration from anywhere. Moreover, social media facilitates communication between students and professors. Many instructors use networks such as Twitter to offer class information, answer queries, and more.

3. Boosted Creativity and Self-Expression

Social media sites such as Instagram, YouTube, and TikTok provide an opportunity for students to display their abilities and creative ideas to a large audience. Student-run blogs and online communities dedicated to art, music, writing, and other creative hobbies provide for feedback and connections with others who have similar interests. Additionally, the process of generating material for social



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media might help students overcome their fear of public speaking by allowing them to practice expressing ideas in a safe, online space.

4. *Increased Global Awareness and Cultural Exchange*

Social media crosses geographical barriers, connecting students with individuals from all origins and cultures. Language learning platforms may assist students in acquiring new abilities, while online groups centered on cultural exchange programs foster awareness and respect for various ways of life. Engaging with content providers from around the world helps kids build empathy for global challenges.

5. *Development of Digital and Media Literacy Skills*

In today's information age, utilizing the internet necessitates critical thinking. Social media, by definition, exposes pupils to an ever-changing stream of information.

Conclusion

To conclude, social media has transformed how individuals study and cooperate in English language learning. It enhances learning by allowing for real-time communication, exposure to authentic information, peer engagement, and interactive activities. While social media should not be used to replace conventional learning techniques, it may be a useful addition to increase engagement, motivation, and language competence.

In my opinion, for English learners seeking to enhance their abilities, using social media responsibly may be a fun and productive approach to practice and progress in a collaborative setting.

Social media has had a major influence on society by promoting worldwide connectedness, allowing for fast information exchange, and influencing public conversation. However, it has also prompted concerns about privacy, disinformation, and the possibility of detrimental mental health consequences, emphasizing the complexity and multidimensional nature of its influence.

The widespread use of Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, WeChat, Weibo, and other social media platforms has allowed groups and people to interact and exchange information about shared interests and problems (Alizadeh et al., 2019). Social media has created a vast amount of voluntary data and new relationships, such as the publishing and forwarding of instant messages, the uploading of images, and the linking of users. They have fostered real-time information distribution and created new avenues for communication, involvement, and networking.



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