

INTEGRATING YOUTUBE APPLICATION FOR REMOTE LEARNING: THE VIRTUES AND CHALLENGES

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Abstract

Youtube application is a widely used social media platform that has reached its peak popularity nowadays. All people, young and old, are familiar to this. In this pandemic era, the use of this platform can be considered as one of the best alternatives for teaching English online due to its familiarity, effectiveness, and attractive features. It also offers various information needed not only for the teachers but for the students as well and it can be utilized as a two-way communication for teaching and learning process too. This application also provides authentic learning materials for the learners. Based on this consideration, this paper will review some of the virtues and challenges we can find by employing Youtube application for our emergency remote learning during this Covid 19 outbreak. It is expected that this discussion will be able to give alternatives for improving our teaching and learning process quality during this difficult time.

Keywords: *Youtube Application, Emergency Remote Learning, Virtues and Challenges*

Introduction

Technology is important in today's society and can be used in a variety of ways. Many people, for example, use technology to conduct activities and work such as in job hunting, business transactions, and information gathering. In fact, technology may give learners with a wealth of online resources, such as learning websites, as well as an awesome supply of information. There are several internet materials, such as the YouTube website, that can be blended into traditional English teaching. YouTube is regarded as a valuable source of internet content in the realm of education and learning. It has grown in popularity among the general public, particularly among adults. This website can give students with real-life films and scenarios that can aid in their comprehension and performance in English language classes. Many researchers have found that when students work together, they can get good results in order to improve their English skills.

The use of the Internet in education has a positive impact on the learning and teaching process, especially in classrooms (Rice et al. 2011). Many researchers, have observed the impact of interactive television and video-based media on students and teachers. Whithaus and Neff (2006) discovered that teachers can use videos as a Web-based mode of instruction and provided them with the opportunity to use videos as a means of learning. Furthermore, videos can encourage student interaction, which is beneficial to social pedagogy. According to a study conducted by Boster et al. (2006), videos can have a positive impact on educational achievement. Thus we can say that using YouTube videos in the classroom is useful and beneficial for teachers who are interested in using technology to teach.

Technology, education, and internet environment are the aspects that all educators are closely attached to in this pandemic situation. Our education system has been abruptly changed to distant learning using using the internet during this emergency situation. Teachers are suddenly

being exposed to a situation where they must move their teaching activities to online mode. This condition needs lots of adjustments and creates many challenges not only for the teachers but also for the learners. The use of Youtube in learning activities can be taken into consideration to answer this challenge. The purpose of this paper is to describe the advantages and disadvantages of it and also some possible alternatives that can be taken into account.

The Advantages and Disadvantages of Youtube Application for Online Learning

Youtube is a public video partner web page where users can upload, share, and view videos. It is a combination of visual context with spoken language and that is one of the features that is expected to assist in developing students' ability to enjoy and understand English because they are exposed to authentic materials in most of the videos. This character makes Youtube videos easily to be accepted by English learners, especially the young adult and adult learners.

There are some advantages of using YouTube for online learning:

1. It is free
Anyone can access YouTube at any time. This makes it a viable tool for teachers with limited budgets. No matter where you are in the world, you can access videos uploaded for educational purposes without having to create a Google account.
2. Can be used anywhere.
Teachers do not have to be tied to a specific location to upload videos that are useful to their students. This means that you have the opportunity to upload student videos anywhere in the world as long as you are connected to the internet. This makes YouTube a particularly useful tool for courses designed for distance learning.
3. Can be used as an additional resource.
YouTube videos can be used in classroom settings to complement important points that teachers are talking about. This can be a visual way to provide additional information, provide real-world examples, or step-by-step solve problems that students need to solve.
4. It extends the classroom to the home.
Not all families can afford a tutor. Not all students can do their homework on their own. YouTube allows teachers to upload reference videos, lectures, and even replays of what happened in class, allowing them to thoroughly research and save information.
5. Offer multiple learning options for the same task.
Some people work better through visual components. Others can learn better by reading directly the information they need to keep. YouTube provides educators with the ability to provide multiple ways to show solutions to problems. This allows each student to learn in the way that best suits their needs.
6. YouTube can be a kind of network for teachers.
Not all teachers can create and upload videos based on the curriculum. However, if only one teacher finds the time, other teachers teaching the same concept or syllabus can use these media as a resource for the lesson. This allows teachers to connect and support each other in their own way
7. You can replay the video as many times as you need.
In the classroom setting, students may not have the opportunity to see important points if they do not retain the information for the first time. There are no restrictions on YouTube.

Besides that, there are some disadvantages of using YouTube for online learning:

1. Not each video on YouTube is reliable.
Fake information isn't only a trouble on Facebook. There are several video which are uploaded each day that come from questionable sources. Some video are designed to

- promote merchandise or sell a non-public agenda. It can make the effort to type the actual movies from the unreliable ones and this is an funding that now no longer each educator is able to make.
2. Some content in the video may not be suitable for your age group.
To be honest, some YouTube videos are not suitable for kids. This includes videos aimed at young viewers. This particular important point may not apply to high school or college level courses, but should be taken into account by educators teaching young children. That's exactly why YouTube has been out of.
 3. Internet connection is required to access.
If you don't have a cellular data connection and you don't have an internet connection in your classroom, there is no way to teach using YouTube. This requires some online connection for it to work. In the absence of anything, all these important points tend to be controversial education for years.
 4. Videos often contain ads.
And some of these ads can be very boring without being able to skip them. These ads may not be suitable for the content being conveyed.

As we all know, instructors are increasingly using YouTube to teach the English language (Duffy 2008). It provides enjoyable and quick access to instruction, culture-based videos, and languages from around the world (Terantino 2011). In other words, the growing popularity of YouTube learning can have a positive impact on the learning ecology (Kwan et al. 2008). Some studies had been conducted to find out the impact of Youtube in teaching and learning process.

Seilstad (2012) investigated the use of YouTube clips as a new method of teaching English to students in Morocco. According to the study, using YouTube videos to create relevant and specific teaching material is a relatively simple strategy. The results of the learner surveys, a comparison to students' final grades in previous semesters, and various forms of personal reflection shed light on the effectiveness of using YouTube videos. Prensky (2009) also stated that using YouTube videos in teaching is effective because it contains videos from major scientists, authors, TV news broadcasts, politicians, and other TV programs. It can become a standard means of communication for important information that is only available in video form and is not available in print form.

YouTube, according to Kabooha & Elyas (2018), is an internet medium that significantly contributes to education in general. Furthermore, it provides immediate access to teaching. Videos about culture and languages from around the world play an important role in language teaching in classrooms (Fleck et al., 2014). YouTube videos are popular, a straightforward method for creating instructional materials because it contains information that is relevant and specific to learning English since it has videos of great scientists and writers, as well as TV newscasts, politicians, as well as other television programs (Pratama et al., 2020).

From the above findings we can conclude that there are many advantages of using Youtube for online learning activities which will improve students' skills in English and also give them the opportunity to study the language more independently in a fun way. Youtube can provide many exposures even in real time to give them the sense of real communication with others across the world. By doing so, their language and communication skill will be well upgraded.

Besides having the positive implication as explained above, the use of Youtube for online learning activities also has some negative implication that teachers should aware of and should be minimized to reduce its negative potentials. One of which is the content of the videos that has the adult nature. Teachers must carefully selecting the videos that will be shown to the students and make sure that they will be suitable for the students and the topic being discussed in teaching and

learning activities. Make sure the language used is also appropriate and suitable with the students' age.

Custom and culture in certain regions and areas must also be put into attention because there are some videos that may contain images or themes that are considered to be controversial, indecent, or taboo, so teachers should exercise caution when selecting videos on Youtube to be used as appropriate teaching materials. This precaution must be conducted to avoid negative effects that probably emerge from the use of the videos. Teachers must have the ability to select and choose the appropriate videos for perfect teaching materials.

The advantages and disadvantages of YouTube in Education explained in this paper show that it can be an especially meaningful way to connect teachers with students. As long as the negative sides are managed in an effective way, there are many positive outcomes that can be obtained.

Thus we can say that there are possible benefits and also some drawbacks of using Youtube for English online learning. Teachers should be wise enough in selecting and utilizing the materials taken from Youtube to ensure that the video selection is appropriate and can aid in achieving learning outcomes.

How to Incorporate Youtube in Online English Class

Some possible ways can be implemented by teachers to incorporate Youtube videos in classroom interaction. Here are possible techniques adapted from *educationalappstore.com* that are expected to be able to boost the students' ability in understanding the language and have a meaningful communication. They are:

a. Utilizing topical videos to spark interest and build discussion among the students

Available videos on Youtube are mostly about real events and situations in society. Teachers can select current affairs videos, such as news clips, some personal stories, real time reports, etc and the class can share their opinions or ideas about them. Different clips with the same topics can be a great way to trigger opinions, arguments, and ideas from the learners.

b. Use videos of poets/writers reading their own works

Videos on Youtube are also great sources for a literature class. When a writer is performing his own writing, it feels like giving its work a "life" and it will be able to encourage students who are not confident enough when it comes to poetry reading or story telling. The language matters such as the tone, rhythm, rhyme, and intonation are far more effective when performed by the writers themselves.

c. Use documentary clips to provide context

Large broadcasters such as the BBC, CNN, Channel 4 and many others are equipped with Youtube channel nowadays. They usually upload some parts of their documentaries to these channels. These will be valuable materials for our lessons to lead the students into certain topics.

d. Make use of YouTubeEdu

Videos available on YouTubeEdu will be excellent sources for educational purposes since they are created for this intention. They usually are concise and have professional qualities, so teachers only need to select and consider which videos can be used for their classes.

e. Find clips to use as an archive resource

There are plenty of clips on YouTube that feature archive footage from as early as the 1920s, which is great for contextualizing historical context. There are also numerous 'local' clips that may depict your city or town from decades ago, allowing children to connect their experiences with those who lived in the same area many years ago. These sources will be great for teaching in history class.

f. An excellent source of lesson for visual learners

Some students cannot learn well from written materials. They learn better by using their visual capabilities. Videos from Youtube will give them more opportunities to learn and help them to understand the lesson better.

g. Extension opportunities

Teachers can select videos with more complicated areas but still related to the current topic to be learnt at home as homework, especially for those consistently overachieve in class. This will make them more challenged and provide them with higher level of information.

h. Use the videos in Youtube as examples for the students to make their own videos and have them play their own videos in class

Students can be asked to make their own videos by using the videos in Youtube as the samples. They should follow some steps before producing the videos. They must write, produce, and edit them on a specific topic. This will be a great chance to incorporate various language skills in one assignment. After finishing the task, students can play their videos in class or upload them in social media. It will be a great motivation for them to perform their best in creating the videos.

i. Use video infographics as a compelling way to introduce a lot of information in a short amount of time

Video infographics equipped with attractive music, color, animation, and design will be a perfect tool to provide information to students. Their attention span will be extended if the information is delivered in an attractive and interesting way.

j. Demonstrate experiments

When a large scale experiment is needed and the teachers don't have enough resources for that, then go find it in Youtube, there are plenty of them there.

k. Assign a 'video watch' homework for introducing a new material

By giving this assignment, explaining or introducing a new material to the students will not be so hard because they already have a prior knowledge about it.

l. Have the videos as a writing prompt

In a writing lesson, providing suitable videos to spark the students' inspiration for writing a certain theme will be a good idea.

m. Empowering listening skills

YouTube videos are of course wonderful sources for listening materials. There are unlimited videos that can be used for students to practice their listening skills. Some activities can be generated from this, such as by asking them to note down key pieces of information in a 'journalism' style task.

n. Set a research assignment

Students can also use YouTube to increase their knowledge of a topic whilst making notes to share with the class. By employing this technique, the students learn to be independent in gaining the knowledge and information.

Conclusion

The description and explanation given above had proven that Youtube has the capability on assisting English online learning. Teachers only need to adjust the contents and the delivery to make sure that the learning outcomes can be well achieved. The use of Youtube especially in this pandemic era can be quite beneficial since students will get lots of exposures related to the topics being discussed and they can also learn the language in a more fun and independent way. Of course, careful selection and precautions need to be conducted by teachers to hinder the possible negative impacts from the Youtube contents. Regarding those facts, teachers can employ

Youtube for English online learning during this emergency remote learning period to create more meaningful learning activities.

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