

THE IMPACT OF DIGITAL LITERACY IN EFL CLASSES

Najmiddinova Mumtozbegin
student of English language and literature faculty,
Igamberdieva Shahnoza
teacher of English language and literature faculty
Fergana State University

Annotation: Many questions are being asked about the use of mass media and technology for academic purposes. More important is how students will use the media, especially digital, for their learning. Digital literacy is becoming an increasingly effective way to learn a language and teach it to other students. From the point of view of academic goals, digital literacy is the understanding and ability to use computers or other technologies to intentionally acquire knowledge. This article will define what digital literacy is, although many other researchers have already talked about it, and its useful aspects for English language learners and teachers, as well as give some information about the best web programs for language learning. In conclusion, students should improve their language learning skills through digital literacy, and the application rates for digital literacy should also increase.

Key words: Digital literacy, EFL classes, social media, English language learner, teaching, methods, listening skills, speaking, digital literacy

In recent years, the whole world has changed thanks to the improvement of technology. Even the methods of teaching lessons in the classroom have undergone significant changes under the influence of technology. Teachers had to replace their teaching methods with teaching methods using digital media. One of the main reasons for this event: learning a new language requires students to have writing, reading, speaking and listening skills, while students acquire these skills from podcasts, ted talks, textbooks, movies that can be viewed on the phone, computer, TV, etc. Because the younger generation is used to working with this kind of technology, which gives so many advantages for learning a lesson or a language. In his book: Lincs, Rob Jenkins writes: "The list of survival skills would be incomplete without the inclusion of digital literacy activities. It is important to note that technologies in the classroom can be used with great success to improve learning, but this in itself does not give students the opportunity to develop digital literacy skills. In addition, digital literacy is more than just the ability to master basic computer skills. This includes what people do with technology, how they solve problems and how they communicate effectively." So, how should students practice and gain experience doing tasks in the classroom that will lead to their ability to function in the world of technology.

What is digital literacy? Digital literacy is a term that everyone may have heard more and more about over the past few years. The social life of people and educational institutions require a certain form of competence in the field of digital literacy. Indeed, it is not only about knowing how to use technology, but also about integrating teaching and communication methods through various digital media. Digital literacy is really important not only for university students, it is also necessary when a person enters the profession. For example, people need a certain level of digital literacy to turn on a computer, fill out several job applications, or teach lessons by showing several videos using websites. Some people rely on social media forms to communicate with their friends, while some people don't use them and turn to social media to find out the latest news. While others use it for educational purposes. One video says that being digitally literate students means having opportunities in 5 interrelated areas: • They should be able to search, navigate and find information on digital

platforms; • After finding the information, it's time to evaluate, analyze and apply critical thinking skills for verification; • Organize, manage and process the information they found; • The ability to create, construct and generate digital artifacts and digital identity; • They should also be able to communicate, establish connections and collaborate with other people. Being able to be digitally literate is great because it can be the key to people's success both at university and in your future career. The use of technology in EFL classes. Nowadays, in the age of advanced technologies, more and more pedagogical methods are switching to interesting gamified learning. People of our era are so lucky to live in a digital society where they can find many useful tools for learning a language. Thus, social networks play a very important role in EFL classes (English as a foreign language). There are so many programs that students can use for educational purposes. For example, the Duolingo program teaches languages using various games. With the help of this game technique, students can memorize words and get the opportunity to form knowledge. In addition, students can learn English or some other languages by watching videos on YouTube. There are so many online lessons on Youtube that are conducted by professional teachers for English language learners. One of the well-known and effective YouTube channels is Linguamarina, where a girl named Marina teaches some vocabulary, phrases, idioms, which are mainly used by native speakers, and also conducts classes on speaking as a professional. In addition, she shares some of her impressions of her trip to the United States, as well as how to make business plans. If students practice every day on this kind of program, they will definitely achieve their goals. "As English language learning develops basic digital literacy skills, there will be many opportunities to expand English language acquisition beyond the classroom. This means that if a person is able to use technology, then he may have the opportunity to communicate with people from other countries through online platforms, and also such a situation can provide unlimited English classes. In this regard, digital literacy includes basic skills: listening, reading, speaking and writing." • For the development of listening skills, we need technology more than for other types of skills. When performing listening tasks, students should listen to audio, podcasts or videos that are played on their phone, computer or mp3 players. Even for such simple cases, we need modern technology. • Conversational skills require watching more videos, movies, listening to music to improve people's vocabulary, and this helps to pronounce words correctly. In recent years, with the development of technology, a voice recording platform has appeared in every person's phone. So, the voice recorder is the most important program that the speaker needs. • To complete reading tasks, students need more texts that can be found on Internet platforms. Students can find textbooks or practical manuals to read from their phones or computers at any time convenient for them. This is also one of the benefits of digital literacy for students. • Writing requires you to have more ideas in your brain, but not everyone is as smart as others. People can get samples of writing from the Internet, and they can write it in their own words, but not copy it, whereas from these samples they can draw a wide range of ideas, an expanded vocabulary, as well as the structure of writing. And next time, after practicing it every day, students will be able to write down anything from their brain using complex words and structures. These are the main points of using technology in EFL classes.

Since we live in the era of social networks, the use of intelligent technologies in the classroom may interest students in the lesson. However, this is a requirement of the time when everyone is interested in digital media. To cover this period, teachers use various technologies in their classes. As we mentioned earlier, in this century, every youth is fascinated by smart machines, if lessons are taught in this way, they will try to perform and memorize all the tasks that are given as homework. Thus, e-learning will be more interesting and effective than simple methods. Conclusion Currently, the use of technology is also

included in the teaching of English. Technology provides students with some opportunities to improve language learning and assimilation. Thus, the use of mass media should be included and necessary for the training system. In this study, the theory of digital literacy in EFL classes was proposed. And in the future, digital literacy will become the most important way of learning. Thus, each educator and teacher should learn how to use technology in the classroom, then they should conduct lessons with the help of those types of machines that cover learning and the content of learning in the future.

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