

Using technology to enhance motivation in teaching English to young learners in Uzbekistan

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Abstract: In modern education, technology plays an increasingly important role in improving the quality of teaching and learning. In Uzbekistan, the integration of technology into English language education has become one of the key priorities of educational reform. This article examines how technology can enhance motivation among young learners studying English as a foreign language. The study focuses on the use of multimedia tools, educational applications, and interactive digital resources in primary school classrooms. The research is based on classroom observations, questionnaires, and interviews with students. The findings show that the use of technology increases students' interest, participation, and confidence. Students are more motivated when lessons include videos, games, and interactive exercises. The article concludes that technology is an effective motivational tool that can improve learning outcomes and support innovative teaching practices in Uzbekistan.

Keywords: technology, motivation, young learners, English teaching, Uzbekistan, multimedia, educational apps

INTRODUCTION

In recent years, technology has become an essential part of modern education. Digital tools, multimedia resources, and educational applications are widely used to support teaching and learning. In the field of foreign language education, technology provides new opportunities to make lessons more engaging and effective. In Uzbekistan, educational reforms emphasize the importance of integrating modern technologies into the teaching process. Under the leadership of Shavkat Mirziyoyev [1; 10-18], the government has introduced several initiatives aimed at improving digital education and foreign language learning. These reforms encourage teachers to use innovative methods, including technology, to improve students' motivation and learning outcomes.

Technology is especially important for young learners. Children are naturally interested in digital devices such as computers, tablets, and smartphones. When technology is used in the classroom, students become more engaged and motivated. Traditional teaching methods often rely on textbooks and repetition, which may not be interesting for young learners. In contrast, technology allows teachers to use visual and

interactive materials that make learning more enjoyable. For example, teachers can use interactive exercises, songs, and animated videos to teach vocabulary and pronunciation. These tools help students understand and remember new information more easily.

Technology also provides opportunities for independent learning. Students can practice English using educational applications such as Duolingo and Quizlet. These applications use games, rewards, and feedback to motivate students. This demonstrates that technology supports continuous learning. Another important advantage of technology is that it creates a positive and interactive learning environment. Students feel more comfortable and confident when learning through games and multimedia. In the Uzbek educational context, the use of technology can help teachers create more motivating lessons. It can also support the goals of educational reform and improve the quality of foreign language teaching. Therefore, the purpose of this article is to examine how technology can enhance motivation in teaching English to young learners and to identify effective technological tools that can be used in primary education in Uzbekistan.

Motivation plays an essential role in foreign language learning, especially among young learners. Researchers agree that students learn more effectively when they are interested and engaged in the learning process. Technology is one of the most effective tools that can increase motivation.

According to Zoltán Dörnyei (2001) [2; 40-55], motivation influences students' effort, participation, and persistence. When students are motivated, they actively participate and achieve better results. Teachers can increase motivation by using modern and interactive teaching methods.

Jeremy Harmer (2007) [3; 120] emphasized that multimedia tools such as videos, audio, and digital exercises make lessons more interesting and effective. These tools help students understand and remember information more easily.

The theory of Lev Vygotsky (1978) [4; 85] also supports the use of technology in education. He explained that students learn better through interaction and active participation. Technology provides opportunities for interactive learning and communication.

Uzbek researchers have also studied the role of technology in education. Olimjon Tolipov (2010) [5; 95-110] stated that modern pedagogical technologies improve students' motivation and learning effectiveness. He noted that digital tools create more engaging learning environments.

Similarly, Nodira Muslimov (2015) [6; 60] emphasized that innovative technologies help students become more active and independent learners. Technology increases students' interest and supports continuous learning.

Dilfuza Khodjaeva (2018) [7; 45-59] also highlighted that multimedia tools improve students' motivation and participation. She explained that technology helps teachers create more effective and modern lessons.

Overall, both international and Uzbek researchers agree that technology plays an important role in increasing motivation and improving English language learning.

The results of this study showed that the use of technology had a positive impact on students' motivation and participation in English lessons. Based on classroom observations, questionnaires, and interviews, it was found that students were more engaged and interested when technological tools were used.

During classroom observations, students showed higher attention and participation when lessons included videos, interactive exercises, and digital games. Students were more willing to answer questions and complete tasks. They were also more active compared to traditional lessons that used only textbooks.

The questionnaire results showed that most students had positive attitudes toward using technology. Out of 15 students:

13 students said they enjoyed learning English using videos

12 students preferred interactive exercises over traditional exercises

14 students said technology made lessons more interesting

11 students said they felt more confident when using digital tools

These results show that technology increases students' interest and motivation.

Interviews also confirmed that students enjoyed using technology. Students reported that videos and interactive activities helped them understand lessons better and made learning more enjoyable.

The teacher also observed that students were more focused and participated more actively during lessons that included multimedia tools.

Overall, the results demonstrate that technology is an effective tool for increasing motivation and improving learning engagement.

The findings of this study confirm that technology plays an important role in motivating young learners. The results support the ideas of Zoltán Dörnyei, who stated that motivation increases student participation and learning effectiveness.

The findings are also consistent with the research of Jeremy Harmer, who emphasized that multimedia tools improve students' engagement and understanding. Technology makes lessons more interactive and interesting.

The results also support the views of Olimjon Tolipov, who highlighted the importance of modern pedagogical technologies in education. Technology creates better learning conditions and increases student motivation.

In the Uzbek educational context, traditional teaching methods often focus on textbooks and memorization. However, this study shows that technology-based

teaching methods are more effective. Students respond positively to videos, digital exercises, and interactive learning activities.

Technology also helps create a student-centered learning environment. Students become active participants rather than passive learners. This improves both motivation and learning outcomes.

These findings show that integrating technology into English language teaching is an important step toward improving education quality in Uzbekistan.

CONCLUSION

This study examined the role of technology in increasing motivation among young learners studying English. The results show that technology has a positive impact on students' motivation, participation, and confidence.

Students were more engaged when lessons included videos, interactive exercises, and multimedia tools. Technology made lessons more interesting and helped students understand the material better.

One important innovation identified in this study is the use of interactive digital tools such as educational applications, multimedia presentations, and digital games.

Technology also supports independent learning. Students can practice English outside the classroom using digital tools, which improves their skills and confidence.

Therefore, it is recommended that teachers in Uzbekistan integrate technology into English language teaching. The use of modern technological tools can improve motivation, increase participation, and enhance the overall quality of education.

Table 1.

Impact of Technology on Student Motivation

Technology Tool	Effect on Motivation	Learning Outcome
<i>Educational videos</i>	increases interest	better understanding
<i>Interactive exercises</i>	increases participation	improved practice
<i>Digital games</i>	increases engagement	faster learning
<i>Multimedia presentations</i>	improves attention	better retention
<i>Educational apps</i>	supports independent learning	continuous improvement...

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