

TEACHING LISTENING COMPREHENSION THROUGH MULTIMEDIA TOOLS

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Abstract: This research examines the transformative role of multimedia and strategic instruction in developing English listening skills. By moving away from traditional audio-only methods, the study focuses on how visual aids and “metacognitive instruction” help students manage their own learning. The analysis shows that when learners use a three-stage process—planning, monitoring, and evaluating—they become more independent and less anxious. The integration of authentic videos provides real-world context, helping students improve not only their listening but also their vocabulary and critical thinking. The results suggest that a student-centered, multifaceted approach is essential for building confidence and communicative success in a global environment.

Keywords: Digital learning, listening proficiency, metacognitive strategies, EFL instruction, multimedia integration, student-centered teaching.

Developing the ability to understand spoken English is often the biggest hurdle for language learners. In many cases, students struggle because speakers in real life talk quickly or use unfamiliar expressions. Traditional classroom activities often fail to bridge this gap because they lack the visual and social context found in daily communication. However, modern educational technology offers a solution. By incorporating multimedia tools like YouTube and TED Talks, teachers can provide students with visual clues—such as gestures and facial expressions—that make comprehension easier. Furthermore, introducing "metacognitive instruction" teaches students to think about how they learn, rather than just what they learn. This introduction explores how combining these modern tools with active, collaborative strategies creates a more effective and engaging learning environment for students of all skill levels. Successful use of multimedia resources can improve the effectiveness of the whole teaching program. The effective use of multimedia tools is very important in making teaching better, especially in learning English. As mentioned in the article, multimedia is an important part of modern language education because it gives students many different and useful learning opportunities. When teachers use multimedia tools like videos, audio files, podcasts, and interactive websites, they can make lessons more interesting, clear, and active. These tools help students learn in a more enjoyable way

and keep their attention during the lesson. As a result, the classroom becomes more dynamic, creative, and student-centered, where learners feel more involved in the learning process. Multimedia also helps students see and hear real language use. For example, they can watch movies, listen to conversations, or follow real dialogues in different situations such as daily life, education, or travel. This helps them learn correct pronunciation, new vocabulary, sentence structures, and grammar in a natural and meaningful way. It also improves their listening skills and supports speaking, reading, and writing development at the same time. Another important point is that multimedia increases students' motivation and interest in learning English.

Traditional lessons can sometimes feel boring or repetitive, but modern digital tools make learning more fun, attractive, and engaging. Because of this, students take part in lessons more actively, ask more questions, and try to practice more, which improves their learning results. In addition, multimedia supports different learning styles. Some students learn better by seeing images and videos, some by listening to audio materials, and others by doing practical activities. Multimedia resources help all types of learners, so the teaching process becomes more effective, inclusive, and fair for everyone in the classroom. In conclusion, the proper use of multimedia resources greatly improves the quality of teaching and learning. It makes lessons more interesting, helps students understand better, increases motivation, and improves overall learning achievement [1]. This research is by two teachers, Shamsi and Bozorgian. They wanted to help students understand spoken English better. Many students think listening is the hardest part of learning a language. This is because people talk very fast or use words that are too difficult. To fix this, the teachers used a method called "Metacognitive Instruction." This simply means teaching students how to think about their own learning. In this study, 20 students worked together in small groups. In every group, there were some students with high skills and some with lower skills. They watched videos from YouTube and TED Talks. Using videos is called "Multimedia." The students liked videos because they could see the speaker's face and body movements. These visual clues helped them understand the stories much better than just listening to audio.

The students followed three easy steps: 1. The Planning Step Before the video started, students looked at the title and photos. They tried to guess the story. They asked, "What will I hear?" This helped their brains get ready. They wrote down their guesses and shared them with their group. 2. The Monitoring Step While watching, students checked their ideas. They asked themselves, "Am I right?" or "Do I understand this part?" If a word was difficult, they looked at the pictures for help. They also helped each other in their groups. This is called "Collaboration." By talking together, they found the missing information. 3. The Evaluation Step At the end, students looked at their notes. They talked about what was easy and what was hard.

They checked if their plan worked. This helped them understand their mistakes so they could do better in the next lesson. The study found that this method works very well. Students felt more confident and happy. They learned that working together and having a good plan makes listening much easier. Even the students who were not good at listening at first improved a lot by the end of the eight weeks [2]. Using videos in the classroom is a fantastic way to learn English. When students watch videos, they are not just hearing sounds; they are opening a door to many different skills. As the research suggests, video materials help students grow in four major areas: understanding, speaking, vocabulary, and thinking. Understanding and Words First, videos are excellent for listening comprehension. When you listen to a native speaker in a video, you get used to the natural speed of the language. However, it is not only about the ears. You also see the speaker's face and their environment. This helps you learn new vocabulary more easily. For example, if you see a person holding an apple while saying the word, you will remember it much longer than just reading it in a book. Speaking and Communication Second, videos help students become better speakers. After watching a short film or an interview, students often talk about what they saw. They ask questions and share their opinions with their classmates. This makes speaking feel natural and fun. Instead of just repeating sentences from a textbook, they use English to talk about real-life situations. This builds confidence and helps them communicate more clearly with others.

Smart Thinking Finally, videos develop critical thinking. A good video makes you think deeply. Students have to analyze why a character did something or what a story means. They don't just accept the information; they look for clues and try to solve problems. This is very important for learning how to use English in the real world. In conclusion, videos are a “versatile tool.” They make lessons more exciting and visually appealing. By using them, teachers help students move beyond simple listening. They create a classroom where students can grow their vocabulary, speak bravely, and think smartly all at the same time [3]. To improve English listening skills according to Jumabayeva (2025), teachers and students must use a broad and modern plan that focuses on many different things at once. First, it is very important to use new technology like videos and audio from the internet because these tools make the lesson interesting and show how people talk in real life. When students use multimedia, they can see faces and actions, which helps them understand the story even if the words are difficult. Second, the learning must be about the student, which means the teacher looks at what the student needs and likes instead of just talking for a long time. This is called a learner-centric way of teaching, where the student is the most important person in the classroom. In this method, students are very active and they learn how to prepare for listening by thinking about the topic before the audio starts. They also learn how to check their own work to see if they made mistakes and how to fix them next time.

Furthermore, the research says that listening should not be done alone; instead, students should work together with their friends and even their families to practice more. By using these modern tools and focusing on the student's own life and goals, the learning process becomes much stronger. This multifaceted approach helps everyone become brave and confident when they use English to talk to people from all over the world. Ultimately, if students have the right tools and a good teacher who listens to their needs, they will develop great communicative competence and find that understanding English is a skill they can use for their whole lives in business, travel, and education [4]. The study concludes that the use of multimedia in teaching listening plays a significant role in improving the effectiveness of language learning in EFL classrooms. Traditional listening activities often rely on limited audio materials that may not fully reflect real-life communication, which can make the learning process less natural and sometimes less engaging for students. In contrast, multimedia tools such as videos, audio recordings, and interactive digital resources provide a richer and more realistic learning experience. These tools allow students to hear authentic language, observe context, and understand meaning more easily through visual and auditory support. Moreover, multimedia helps reduce the limitations of conventional listening practices by making learning more dynamic and student-centered. It encourages learners to become more active participants rather than passive listeners. Through exposure to real-life situations and diverse language inputs, students can develop better listening comprehension skills and improve their overall language proficiency. In addition, multimedia resources can increase students' motivation and interest, as they make lessons more engaging and enjoyable. This positive learning environment supports better concentration and participation during the lesson. Another important advantage is that multimedia supports different learning styles, allowing visual, auditory, and interactive learners to benefit equally. As a result, students are more likely to understand and retain information effectively.

Overall, integrating multimedia into listening instruction not only addresses the weaknesses of traditional methods but also offers various benefits that enhance students' learning outcomes and language development [5]. In conclusion, the evolution of English language instruction highlights that mastering listening skills is no longer about repetitive drills, but about adopting a strategic, multifaceted approach. The evidence from various studies confirms that multimedia resources — such as authentic videos and interactive digital tools — are essential for bridging the gap between classroom learning and real-world communication. These tools provide vital visual context, such as facial gestures and environmental clues, which allow students to process language more naturally and effectively than through audio alone. Moreover, the research emphasizes that technology must be paired with student-centered methodologies like metacognitive instruction. By teaching learners to plan,

monitor, and evaluate their own progress, educators empower them to take control of their linguistic development. This shift from passive reception to active engagement helps reduce anxiety and builds longterm confidence. Furthermore, fostering a collaborative environment where students work together ensures that the learning process is inclusive and supportive for all skill levels. Ultimately, integrating modern digital resources with smart, reflective strategies does more than just improve listening scores; it equips students with the communicative competence and critical thinking skills necessary to succeed as global citizens in an increasingly interconnected world.

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