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**"EXPLORING THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY AND TRADITION IN  
DEVELOPING ENGLISH ORAL PROFICIENCY"**

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**ABSTRACT**

This study examines the influence of both modern technology and traditional teaching methods on the development of English oral proficiency. With a focus on language acquisition, the research investigates how these two educational approaches complement each other, and how their combined use can enhance the speaking skills of learners. By integrating technological tools such as language learning apps, multimedia, and virtual reality, with traditional methods like face-to-face interaction and practical exercises, the study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of effective strategies for improving English oral proficiency in the classroom.

Keywords: English oral proficiency, technology, tradition, language acquisition, multimedia, language learning apps, virtual reality, interactive learning

**INTRODUCTION**

Oral proficiency in English has become a critical aspect of language learning, especially in the context of global communication. The development of speaking skills in a second language requires consistent practice, exposure, and interaction. Traditionally, language learners have relied on conventional teaching methods such as conversation-based classes, direct interaction with teachers, and peer discussions to improve their oral proficiency. However, with the rapid advancement of technology,



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new tools and techniques have been introduced into the learning process, providing students with more diverse ways to practice and enhance their speaking skills.

Technology, including multimedia resources, online platforms, and interactive tools, has revolutionized the learning environment, making it more engaging and accessible. However, the effectiveness of technology-based learning strategies has often been questioned when compared to traditional face-to-face methods. While technology offers convenience, flexibility, and personalized learning experiences, traditional methods emphasize direct communication, cultural context, and social interaction, which are essential components in language development.

This study aims to explore the roles that both technology and traditional methods play in the development of English oral proficiency. By analyzing the benefits and challenges of each approach, the research seeks to determine how these methods can be integrated effectively to support language learners in achieving higher levels of speaking competence.

### **METHODOLOGY**

The research follows a qualitative methodology, utilizing both primary and secondary data sources. The primary data was collected through a series of interviews and surveys conducted with English language teachers and learners. These participants were selected from diverse educational backgrounds, including schools, language institutes, and universities.

The survey aimed to gather insights on the types of technology-based tools being used for oral proficiency practice, as well as the frequency and nature of traditional speaking activities employed in the classroom. In-depth interviews with language teachers were conducted to understand their perceptions of the effectiveness of both methods in enhancing students' speaking skills.

Secondary data was gathered from existing literature, including academic papers, books, and articles that discuss the role of technology in language learning and



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the importance of traditional methods in developing oral proficiency. This data was analyzed to compare the findings with the primary data collected from participants.

### RESULTS

The findings from the surveys and interviews suggest that both technology and traditional methods contribute significantly to the development of English oral proficiency, but they serve different purposes. Traditional methods, such as classroom discussions, role-playing activities, and pronunciation drills, provide learners with the opportunity to engage in real-time communication, practice listening and speaking skills, and receive immediate feedback from teachers.

Teachers emphasized the importance of face-to-face interaction in creating a supportive learning environment, where students could learn from both their mistakes and successes. Traditional methods also allow for cultural exchange, which is essential for understanding the nuances of language and the context in which certain expressions are used.

On the other hand, technology-based tools were found to offer learners additional opportunities for practice outside the classroom. Language learning apps and websites, such as Duolingo and Babbel, were frequently mentioned as helpful resources for improving vocabulary, pronunciation, and grammar. Virtual reality platforms were also highlighted as innovative tools that provide immersive experiences where learners can practice speaking in realistic, interactive scenarios.

Additionally, online conversation platforms like Skype and Zoom were found to facilitate communication with native speakers, giving learners the chance to practice speaking with individuals from different cultural backgrounds. Technology was also praised for its ability to cater to different learning styles, providing personalized feedback and creating a more engaging and dynamic learning experience.

However, some challenges were noted in the use of technology. Teachers pointed out that while these tools are valuable for independent practice, they cannot



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fully replace the rich interactions and personalized feedback that traditional methods offer. Some students also expressed frustration with technology-based learning, citing issues such as limited real-time interaction and difficulty in maintaining focus during online lessons.

**Discussion**

The findings of this research suggest that both technology and traditional methods have unique advantages when it comes to developing oral proficiency in English. Traditional methods excel in fostering direct communication, cultural understanding, and the development of essential conversational skills. These approaches encourage learners to engage actively with their peers and teachers, building confidence and fluency in speaking.

However, technology offers valuable opportunities for independent practice and access to a wide range of resources that can supplement in-class learning. By incorporating multimedia tools, language learning apps, and virtual reality, students can practice speaking at their own pace, in various contexts, and with native speakers from around the world.

The key to maximizing the benefits of both approaches lies in their integration. Language teachers should seek to combine the advantages of technology with the personal touch of traditional methods. For instance, teachers can use language learning apps to reinforce vocabulary and pronunciation, while also conducting in-class discussions and role-playing activities to simulate real-life communication scenarios.

Furthermore, the use of technology can help address some of the limitations of traditional methods. For example, virtual reality can provide immersive environments where students can practice speaking in contexts they may not otherwise experience, such as job interviews or travel situations. Online platforms can also facilitate communication with native speakers, allowing students to practice pronunciation and fluency in a more interactive setting.



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Ultimately, a blended approach that leverages the strengths of both technology and traditional methods appears to be the most effective strategy for developing English oral proficiency. This integrated approach can provide students with the necessary tools, feedback, and practice opportunities to enhance their speaking skills and achieve greater success in language acquisition.

### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the development of English oral proficiency is significantly influenced by both technology and traditional teaching methods. While traditional methods offer valuable opportunities for real-time communication and cultural exchange, technology provides students with additional resources for independent practice and personalized learning experiences. The integration of both approaches allows for a more comprehensive and dynamic language learning experience that can cater to different learning styles and preferences.

Teachers should continue to explore innovative ways to combine technology with traditional methods in order to create a well-rounded language learning environment. By doing so, they can provide students with the skills and confidence they need to succeed in developing their English oral proficiency and navigating the globalized world of communication.

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