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Application of Smart Boards for Sanitization of English Pronunciation of 10th Class Students

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Abstract:

We are living in the age of technology. Technology is omnipresent in every sphere of life including education. New and innovative tools like smart boards and online portals etc. are used in education, but unfortunately, these modern tools and techniques are not available in most of the government schools of our country. The researcher has visited three different govt. high schools in Pulwama town of Jammu and Kashmir. The researcher asked the students to pronounce his self-decided thirty words correctly as per their belief and knowledge, recorded the results and gave them a home assignment to explore these words with whatever means they would like to use for pronouncing the words correctly. On the next day the researcher asked the students to pronounce the words and recorded the results, now the researcher taught them the correct pronunciation of these words. On the third day the researcher asked the students to pronounce the words, which he taught them yesterday, recorded the result and now the researcher used a smart board, taught them the correct pronunciation of those words and asked them to pronounce the learned words again. The result was completely different from the previous results. The thrust of this research is on the application of smart boards in classrooms and its benefits on the development of English language pronunciation of students.

Keywords: SMART Board, Technology, Govt. School, Computer, Whiteboard, Interaction.

Introduction

The Modern age is marked with vast technological advancements. These advancements have a wide impact on the education in totality. In the same manner, level of knowledge is also expanding with a high speed. To keep pace with the expanding knowledge, the learner needs to learn more; better and faster, which is possible with the help of technology-based learning. Technology has changed the lives of people, be it in offices, schools, airports or elsewhere. In today's fast growing world we see a lot of technological changes in educational intuitions and one among them is the use of SMART Board which has replaced the traditional way of teaching. A SMART Board which is an innovation in teaching is the latest outcome of technology and is considered to be the most effective way of teaching and learning. SMART Boards are touching sensitive white-boards which function with the help of computers and projectors. With the help of smart boards teaching learning becomes more interesting. The focus of this research is on seeing the importance of this technology in the learning process as it enables students to explore concepts in ways that were not previously possible, moreover it is the duty of administrators, academicians and higher authorities to make this facility available in all Government Schools.

The researcher has visited three government schools of Pulwama town consisting of 22, 17 and 31 students respectively in class 10th. Most of the students were not good in the pronunciation of English words, in other words not only a single student was able to pronounce all words correctly. The researcher asked the teacher for the reason behind this incapability of students. The response of teachers was diverse but almost everybody was blaming the authorities for not providing modern amenities to govt. schools, which are easily available in almost all non-govt. schools. One among the teacher asked that he and few of his few friends are newly appointed teachers; previously they were teaching in some private schools where modern facilities like SMART Boards, projectors and computers are available in classrooms. And he has observed that almost all the students in that private school were attentive, when modern devices like SMART boards were used. We are continuously trying to find better and more innovative ways to teach our students. When there is active participation of the students in the class room they know that their response is important and are excited to come up and interact with the SMART Board. Even before meeting my students, the researcher was aware about the fact that the use of smart board will be beneficial to the students in the teaching-learning process as there will be active participation of the students in the class room. Finding ways to reach all of the students is not only important but crucial with the diversity in learning styles, distractibility issues and self-confidence troubles in a class-room. It was observed by him that without the use of SMART boards, the student seem to be lazy, inactive and uninterested and when incorporated in class, students were much more engaged in the lessons. The more attentive they are, the more they will learn. During the use of smart board in the classroom I felt that the students are eager to be personally involved in the lesson and their excitement clearly shows the enthusiasm about the material presented which seemed to ripple through the classroom. Because students are growing up in a world filled with technology, it is important to change our teaching methods to include technology-based instruction. In today's world Technology to the children is their world and we

need to guide them in the best effective way possible. SMART Boards are avenues that make learning come alive for all students. In short we are living in the age of technology, so it is the need of the hour to use this technology in every field of life. The elderly people always believe that this technology has ruined the life of people but they are ignorant that pen and paper was technology of their times. I am sure that the pen and paper would not ruin them instead when they used it to enhance the future and miracles occurred, same is this case in today, within the proper use of these modern amenities one cannot call himself a contemporary but a nomad, orthodox, even far away from the reach of success.

Rationale of the Study

Our society is drawn by the transition of change since the inception of human species. Every age is marked by revolutions in political, economical, social, religious and educational sphere, to count a few. The Human aspects of life are complementary to each other a change in one sphere of life is felt and acknowledged in the other varied domains as well.

The educational process has undergone some serious transitions during the past decades. The technological revolution has changed the method and the policies of the educational process tremendously. Science, research, education, health, banking etc are all operated with ardent and efficient use of technology.

Tech Revolution has been the main mean in present world to help the human society to achieve the goals and has helped at large to unravel the potential of human mind and the enigmas of the universe at a torrent us speed. The Technological sphere has been catalyzed with the invention of Computers and micro-processors. The introduction of PCs in the conventional ways of life has made it a de- facto equipment to carry out the ways of human living standard. Projectors, touch-pads, mobile-phones, surveillance devices, monitoring equipments, digital pens have made the mode of human life go digital. With the implementation of Digital Smart Boards, the Educational system of the world has undergone a revolutionary change and due to continuous efforts of the Indian society, the Indian education system has introduced world class facilities and is keeping the pace intact with the world system. Smart boards have been incorporated in to the educational system under the vision of making India wholly digital in the coming decades

Smart board is a new invention in the class rooms. It has made teaching easier, simpler and economical as it saves a lot of time and energy. Most difficult topics could be easily understood with its help. It has revolutionized teaching learning process. Thus the present paper focuses on only one aspect of smart board i.e, pronunciation. More over various researches from time to time have been conducted by the different researchers of different countries in this field like Christopher J. Dede (1991), Gerard Fabienne et al. (1999), Jolly et. al (1999), Gerard Fabienne et al. (2000), Beeland (2001), Glover, Miller (2001), Peter Ward (2002), David Shutkin (2004), Romana Pospisil (2004), Dave Miller et. al (2005), Derek Glover et al. (2005), AbdulkafiAlbirini (2007), Amolo and Dees (2007), Abeera P. Rehmat, David Riley (2007), Jean (2007), Hannah

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Methodology

This study used a survey research method, employing interviews, conversations and observation of students' ability before and after the use of SMART boards. Both qualitative and quantitative research methods are implied in this study.

School: 1

In school-1 total 22 students were studying in class 10th. And the researcher has analyzed all of the 22 students on day one, two and three and recorded the results of student without any guidance and knowledge of this examination on day 1, after asked for exploration on day 2, verbally taught by the researcher the correct pronunciation of words on day 3 and after the use of SMART boards on day 3 again.

Note: In the SPCW stands for students who pronounced number of correct words.

(Total No. of Words= 30)	Total No. of Students	SPCW 0	SPCW 01-10	SPCW 11-20	SPCW 21-30
Without Practice	22	12	09	01	0
After Home Assignment	22	10	10	02	0
After Taught Verbally	22	09	09	04	0
After Taught on SMART Board	22	0	04	05	13

Table: 1

Findings 1: The students were given total 30 English words to pronounce, before practice out of twenty two students 09 students could pronounce correctly 01 to 10 words and only one student pronounced correctly 11 to 20 words and rest of the students couldn't pronounce a single correct word. After home assignment 10 students pronounced 01 to 10 words properly and only 02 students managed to pronounce 11 to 20 words and rest of the students couldn't pronounce a

single correct word. After the students are taught, verbally without the use of any teaching device, 09 managed to pronounce 01 to 10 words appropriately and 04 managed to pronounce 11 to 20 words and rest of the students couldn't pronounce a single correct word. Now after the use of SMART board 04 students pronounced correctly 01 to 10 words, 05 managed to pronounce 11 to 20 words and 13 pronounced 21 to 30 words.

School: 2

In school-2 total 17 students were studying in class 10th. And the researcher has analyzed all of the 17 students on day one, two and three and recorded the results of student without any guidance and knowledge of this examination, after asked for exploration, after verbally taught by the researcher the correct pronunciation of words and after the use of SMART boards respectively.

Note: In the SPCW stands for students who pronounced number of correct words.

(Total No. of Words= 30)	Total No. of Students	SPCW 0	SPCW 0-10	SPCW 11-20	SPCW 21-30
Without Practice	17	15	02	0	0
After Home Assignment	17	12	04	01	0
After Taught Verbally	17	08	03	06	0
After Taught on SMART Board	17	01	02	0	14

Table: 2

Findings 2: The students were given total 30 English words to pronounce, before practice out of Seventeen students 15 students could pronounce correctly any word, and only two managed to pronounce 01 to 10 words. After home assignment 12 students can't even manage to pronounce a single word, 04 students pronounced 01 to 10 words properly and only 01 student managed to pronounce 11 to 20 words. After the students are taught, verbally without the use of any teaching device, 08 students pronounced no word correctly, 03 managed to pronounce 01 to 10 words appropriately and 06 managed to pronounce 11 to 20 words. Now after the use of SMART boards'only one student couldn't pronounce any word properly, 02 students pronounced correctly 01 to 10 words, and 14 pronounced 21 to 30 words.

School: 3

In school-3 total 31 students are studying in class 10th. And the researcher has analyzed all of the 31 students on day one, two and three and recorded the results of student without any guidance and knowledge of this examination, after asked for exploration, verbally taught by the researcher the correct pronunciation of words and after the use of SMART boards respectively.

Note: In the SPCW stands for students who pronounced number of correct words.

(Total No. of Words= 30)	Total No. of Students	SPCW 0	SPCW 0-10	SPCW 11-20	SPCW 21-30
Without Practice	31	18	07	04	02
After Home Assignment	31	16	08	04	03
After Taught Verbally	31	13	07	07	04

After Taught on SMART Board	31	0	02	05	24
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Table: 3

Findings 3: The students were given total 30 English words to pronounce, before practice out of Thirty one students 18 students could pronounce correctly any word, 07 managed to pronounce 01 to 10 words, 04 managed 11 to 20 words and the remaining 02 pronounced 21 to 30 words correctly. After home assignment 16 students can't even manage to pronounce a single word, 08 students pronounced 01 to 10 words properly, 04 managed to pronounce 11 to 20 words and the remaining 03 student managed to pronounce 11 to 20 words. After the students are taught, verbally without the use of any teaching device, 13 students couldn't pronounce a single correct word, 07 managed to pronounce 01 to 10 words appropriately, 07 managed to pronounce 11 to 20 worlds and the remaining 04 pronounced 21 to 30 words correctly. Now after the use of SMART boards'02 students pronounced correctly 01 to 10 words, 05 students managed to pronounce 11 to 20 words and the rest of 24 pronounced 21 to 30 worlds very efficiently.

Result

The researcher haven taken 70 samples (students) from three different government schools on district Pulwama and divided the into four groups, one who couldn't pronounce a single word correctly, second those who managed to pronounce 01 to 10 words correctly, third those who managed to pronounce 11 to 20 words and fourth those who are efficient to pronounce 20 to 30 words. The researcher has done a good job of adhering a proper research methodology, he has made four different environments for the students to observe their capability in the atmosphere of negligence, after asked to learn it themselves, after taught in a regular mode (general teaching approach) and finally after the use of SMART boards in the classroom. The result found is given below in table 4.

(Total No. of Words= 30)	Total No. of Students	SPCW 0	SPCW 0-10	SPCW 11-20	SPCW 21-30
Without Practice	70	45	18	05	02
After Home Assignment	70	38	22	07	03
After Taught Verbally	70	30	19	17	04
After Taught on SMART Board	70	01	08	10	51

Table: 4**Conclusion**

In the era of globalization of English language and the omnipresence of technology, it is necessary to use modern teaching devices like SMART boards in the classroom to develop teaching learning process. English is a secondary and non-local language of India, so it is obviously understood that the people of India will not be able to pronounce it properly, it is why proper teaching aids and methods are required to learn it efficiently. English teaching especially English language teaching has been improved by the use of these new, innovative and modern technological devices.

From the above study it is been observed that, from 45 students out of 70, who couldn't pronounce a single word correctly is fallen into only 01 student after the use of SMART boards,

means 64.28% to 01.43%; similarly those who can pronounce 01 to 10 words falls from 18 to 08, means from 25.71% to 11.43%. And the rise in the number of students, who can pronounce correctly 11 to 20 out of 30 words has risen from 05 to 10 after the use SMART boards, means double the growth in other words from 7.14% to 14.28% and those who can pronounce 21 to 30 words corrects has shown the growth from 02 to 51, means from 2.86% to 72.86%. In short before the use of SMART board 64.28% of students were not able to pronounce a single correct word and after the use of SMART board 72.86% of students are able to pronounce 21 to 30 out of 30 words correctly. Thus the research came to a conclusion that use of SMART boards is very beneficial in teaching learning process and government should take a positive and pivotal step towards its implementation.

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