Instructional Technology Use in English Language Teaching

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Abstract

This paper discusses about using instructional technology as a media in improving students English. Some problems faced by students in teaching and learning process especially for student English achievement. For instance, they got some difficulties in following quicker information on the slide because the instructor providing too much information. This situation made the class was boring also some students were unsure if their lecturers were using technology effectively because often it is not the fault of the lecturer, but the fault of the technology it self. Problems with the technology lead to disruption in learning when there is a technical failure, and most of the instructors ask to help fix the problem. There are two important causes of this condition; they are the instructors and technology. Using instructional technology can be more effective and improve student English if the instructors have confidence and skills in using the technology.

Keywords: instructional technology, media, teaching English.

INTRODUCTION

Teaching and learning process is an activity to enhance the development of students capability. The development of students capability suitable with the growth of globalization era. One of the main causes of the impact of globalization is technology. The progress of technology becomes develop especially in education and instructional process. Instructional technology is the tool or facility that help both lecturers and students in teaching learning process. It makes the lecturers easy to transfer the knowledge to the students. Then the students can catch the lesson easily. Instructional technology has an important role in conducting learning English becomes more interesting and innovative. Beside that, it can

facilitate and make teaching and learning more effective. By using instructional technology both lecturers and students will be more interest in classroom activity. The lecturers can handle the classroom through the use of it. Then the lecturers can deliver the idea through instructional technology use. Next, the students did not feel bored during learning process.

There are some types of instructional technology that can help lecturers in teaching learning process. According to Mckenzie (2005:34), Smaldino et all (2005:21), Rao (2008:10), types of instructional technology includes: distance learning hardware (internet and e-mail), TV/VCR, LCD projectors, power point and computer/laptop.

The use of these instructional technology offers the potential for an important enhancement of teaching and learning in higher education, lecturers or educators often try to integrate technology into their teaching. Also, it is an integral part of completing students work and assignments outside of the classroom as well. We agreed that the students have to be connected about 90% of their day. Whether it is to do the homework assignment, take a quiz. or just check to see if an instructor sent important notes over e-mail, they feel that they need to be online for courses multiple times a day.

It is becoming very apparent that the role of the instructor and the nature of classroom activities are changing as most of the lecturers try to integrate technology into their teaching. Based on the surveys many instructors were positive about the effectiveness of technology in their teaching. The most commonly used technologies were portable laptop/computer, LCD projector and power point slides. They belief that the use of technology facilities a deeper understanding of conceptually difficult information. It really helps to visualize things that the students would not get out of reding a book or by hearing them. In addition, to posting notes, setting up a course website, sending an e-mail or creating a disscussion board or online links were also considered technologies that increased student satisfaction with classes and can provide large benefits for their learning. All these technologies can build skills and increase confidence in their own assignments.

However, some problems can be faced in accessing these technologies in the classroom. There are times in which a student would prepare to be taught without the aid of technology. They felt that the use of the technologies all the time can make them frustated because of the lack of interaction between student and lecturers in the classroom. Some students also got difficult in following information quicker on a slide because the lecturer providing too much

information on the screen. There can be a misuse of technology. This makes the class very boring.

There are two potential causes of the condition. First, it was problem with the instructor. The instructor sometimes doesnot really seem comfortable by using technology. They try, but when things go wrong they got frustated. Second, technology may be inadequate or technical problem. It really is not as easy as it seems.

Another students problem was found when there is something goes wrong with the technology. This problem often lead to disruption in learning and the students just have to sit there and do nothing and lose so much class time because something went wrong.

Hence, in this paper the writer will give more information about the importance of using instructional technology in teaching learning process to make learning English more effective. It also can help both lecturers and students in achieving aim of learning in classroom activity. First, lecturers can deliver the material to the students easily. Second, lecturers can save time and energy during teaching English because by using these instructional technology (computer/laptop and LCD projector) they will not explain the material with traditional method. Third, the students did not feel bored during learning because the use of instructional technology make them intersted and motivated. Fourth, the students will be more enthusiasm in catching the lesson through media as an instructional technology.

Teaching English

As an international language, English is a tool to communicate with other people in the world. In teaching English, the lecturers should know the way how to make students motivated and interested in learning. According to Gutteridge (2000:7), teaching English begins by accepting this general notion of what imaginative literature is and why we ought to approach it as something real and unique. In the other word, teaching English should be concern in notions as presence and coherence. As a language, in teaching English the lecturers should pay attention in imaginative literature such as make the students think about how to imagine the words that will be written. Then, the lecturers give command to the students to cast what they imagine. Teaching English disscuss about how the students imagine about something and it is the reason teaching about language is the unique thing.

On the other hand, Ediger et al (2003:2) describe that in teaching foreign language (English) the teacher or lecturer should do well to keep natural process in view. It means that, in teaching English natural process in view presents new language items. The teacher or lecturer uses language items in meaningful situations.

In addition, Goodwyn (2005:1) explains that English is vitally important and typically it is described as the most important of all school subject, principally because listening, speaking, reading and writing are needed to a greater or lesser degree in every school subject, and for adult life.

Instructional Technology

Instructional technology is one of the important part in teaching and learning English. According to Murrin in Singh (2007:9), instructional technology is a systematic way of designing, carrying out and evaluating the total process of learning and teaching in terms of specific objectives.

On the other hand, Gagne (2010:7) defines that instructional technology includes practical techniques of instructional delivery that systematically aim for effective learning, whether or not they use media.

Then Abdulhak and Darmawan (2013:170) states that instructional technology is the theory and practice design, development, utilization, management and evaluation of processes and resources for learning.

Media As an Instructional Technology

Media as an instructional technology is an innovative way in teaching and learning process. Using of media in teaching and learning could add information, knowledge and experiences. According to Mishra et al (2005:1), using these media and technologies, we internalize information and knowledge available in the external world to construct our own experiences.

Moreover, Guzzetti et al (2010:16) add that media is an innovative way to teach to a variety of learning styles. It means that, by using media lecturers teach the students with the various of learning styles. The lecturers not only focused on the traditional teaching model but also could develop learning styles in order to make students interested.

On the other hand, Mayer (2014:673) states that media is an active process of knowledge construction rather than a passive process of internalizing the information presented in an external display.

Instructional Technology Used by Lecturers in Teaching English

Technology is often used in teaching and learning process. Instructional technology is helpful in making teaching easy, interesting and effective. The lecturers used instructional technology in order to make students successful in achieving aim of learning. On the other hand, by using instructional technology, it can help both lecturers and students in support teaching and learning English. The lecturers will be helped in deliver the lesson, and the students will not feel bored during teaching and learning process. There are some types of instructional technology according to some experts that can help lecturers in teaching learning process.

Smaldino et all (2005:21) state that types of instructional technology includes: computer/laptop, distance learning hardware, internet. According to Singh (2009:3), computer/laptop is an electronic device that performs a given task on a basis of given instructions. On the other hand, Yates (2003:256) adds that the evaluation activity for distance learning could be based on these four teaching purposes: appreciation, content, practice, and review. In addition, Mckenzie (2005:131) states that internet is an interconnected virtual community made up of all kinds of multimedia information, interaction, and collaboration.

On the other hand, Rao (2008:10) adds that types of instructional technology includes: television, films, LCD projectors, and computer/laptop. In addition, Pankajam (2005:112) defines that television with vast net working could play a vital role in the process of teaching and learning. Beside that, Russel (2009:1) describes that film is considered a best practice and many consider teaching with film to be an effective strategy for teaching social studies content. Then, Al-azzawi (2007:281) argues that a liquid crystal display (LCD) projector is a device for giving presentations generated on a computer.

Some of instructional technologies that often used in teaching English are: computer/laptop, LCD projector, E-mail, internet and power point slide.

According to Northen Illinois University, power point can be an effective tool to present material in the classroom and encourage student learning.

Computer/Laptop

Computer/laptop is tool which can be used in support teaching and learning English. It can help the lecturers to manage classroom activity. According to Pankajam (2005:112), computer/laptop has been used as a tool in the field of education with great advantage. Computer/laptop can also present practice, exercise to the students and involve them in a dialogue.

Beside that, Singh (2009:3) defines that computer/laptop is an electronic device that performs a given task on a basis of given instructions. In addition, computer/laptop is a tool that can help the lecturer in give task to the students. It consists of input device and keyboard. By using computer/laptop, the lecture will be easy in give instruction to the students about they should do during classroom activity.

On the other hand, Smaldino et all (2011:161) argue that the teacher or lecturer can use computer/laptop as a tool to gathering the information about students achievement and manage classroom activity.

LCD projector

LCD projector is a device that can be used in teaching and learning English. It can be connected with computer/laptop during classroom activity. According to Al-azzawi (2007:281), a liquid crystal display (LCD) projector is a device for giving presentations generated on a computer. It means that, LCD projector is a tool that have function to show the presentation to the students. It can be connected with the computer/laptop in order to appear the picture or video.

On the other hand, Verderber (2012:189) explains that LCD projector connects to a VCR/DVD player or computer and projects images from them onto a screen, which makes the images easy to see by all members of a large audience. In the other word, LCD projector help the lecturer to show the task that given to students by connect with the computer/ laptop. The project will be appear in the screen in front of the students.

Moreover, Barnes (2014:238) describes that an LCD projector is a device that is used to display video images or data. It means that, as a facility in support learning process, LCD projector should be connect to the computer device. In order to make the data about students' need can be performed in front of the class.

Power point

Power point is a presentation program that is delivered by Microsoft. It is a part of the Microsoft Office system and runs on Microsoft Windows operating system. According to Murphy-Judy (1997:21) Power Point as a computer programme media is usually used to present a work sheet. Then Fisher (2003:1) Power Point is a type media of presentation software. Presentation software that allows one to show color text and image with simple animation and sound, and one of many types in presentation software. So, power point is one of the type presentation software that can be presented with animation and sound the slide presentation will be interest and engaging the motivation.

In addition, Ehow (2010:3) states that Microsoft Power Point media is a presentation software that allows users to create all kinds of slide shows and presentation. On the other hand, Power Point can be used to teach new ideas and concept to the students. using power point is very friendly in teaching. Because by using Power Point can allows the teacher teach the students easily. As a result the students will interest will interest and motivate in learning.

E-mail

E-mail affords the English language learner an opportunity to increase his/her writing output in a very meaningful and personal way. Writing seems had always been a tiresome activity for students. however, with accessing to e-mail, it can be encourage them to write. Their motivation will be increased, and more importantly, their desire to write accurately (both grammatically and their choice of vocabulary) was improved.

E-mail as a teaching teaching tool in the classroom activity can be as private tutoring between a teacher and students or as a part of an international project. To ensure the students make contact with someone in a different country or culture via a class e-mail project. The students should write letters on a regular basis within a semi controlled environments. Thus, the student's written expression should improve during the process. Also, the students should be helped to reflect on the writing process in order to raise his/her conciousness of where more effort or help is needed.

The Importance of Instructional Technology in Teaching English**Computer/Laptop**

There are many advantages of using computer/laptop in language teaching. According to Lee in lai (2006:1), advantages of using computer/laptop in language learning program. It offers students more the learning motivation, enhance student achievement, increase authentic materials for study, encourage greater interaction between teacher/lecturer and student and student and peers, emphasize individual needs and enlarge global understanding.

It means that, computer can demonstrate students exercise in learning. It also can improve students motivation, because it is a tool that make spirit in students it self. After students motivation improve, they will get great achievement. It can help lecturers in prepare material that will be given to students. It becomes priority in decide students capability.

On the other hand, Wang (2011:141) states that advantages of using computer/laptop in English teaching:

Activate learning enthusiasm of students

The lecturers can make full use of features that computer/laptop possesses strong sense of image, intuitive sense, three dimensional sense and dynamic sense to blend some obscure syntaxes and lexical semantics theories into beatiful images, hot music and funny video animation. It can create an easygoing and enjoyable teaching situation to activate learning interest of students farthest.

Optimize traditional teaching model

By using computer/laptop to assist teaching, the teachers can make full use of its dynamic expressive force to vividly reproduce syntax and grammar that have been obscure on projection screen so that teaching content becomes vivid and traditional teaching model is optimized and teaching methods are more diverse.

Promote students to cultivate innovative thinking

English teaching is not only a process of propagating language knowledge, more importantly, but also a process of cultivating English quality of students. In teaching, by using the features that computer/laptop can change static state into dynamic state, abstract state into visual state.

Increase information capacity in classroom teaching

Firstly, large amount of information covered by multimedia courseware solves the problem that the students have not more free time to read relevant extra curricular books. Secondly, English teaching as one of the most basic and important classroom teaching, after

finishing the content of classroom teaching, requires teachers/lecturers to make certain time to present and deal with after school exercises so as to extend and consolidate new knowledge. Using computer/laptop in English classroom teaching successfully solves this problem. Because computer/laptop processes strong dynamics and interaction.

LCD projector

According to Groot (2002:3), there are some benefits of using LCD Projector for lecturers and students:

Visual Aid

Multimedia projectors allow teachers to provide diverse content to all students in the classroom at once, allowing students to have a visual and colorful learning experience during a given lesson.

Alternative way of teaching

By not forcing a teacher to rely solely on books, a multimedia projector makes more educational information available to students. It changes conventional habits and rituals in the classroom.

Makes teaching easier and better

Instead of having students crowd around a PC, the entire class can view one big screen without difficulty. The multimedia projector has made the teaching of Internet-related subjects and the demonstration of new software applications much easier - heightening students' awareness and expectations, while captivating their attention and increasing their motivation.

Moreover, Erikson and Markuson (2007:21) state that there are advantages of LCD projector include: ready and easy of use. On the other hand, Fathorrahman (2013:38) states that in applying projector in the classroom, many benefits will be gotten, those are: interesting, efficiency and effectiveness.

Power Point

Power point can be an effective tool to present material in the classroom and encourage student learning. It saves time and energy once the presentation as been created, is easy to update and can be modified for other courses. It is portable and can be easily shared with students and colleagues. Power point supports multimedia such as video, audio, images and animation. Then Fisher (2010:3) adds that power point media is a presentation software that allows users to create all kinds of slide shows and presentation.

E-mail

E-mail definitely excites, motivates and encourages in students' writing. E-mail between lecturers and students can be simple and unstructure. Lecturers can be require that their students send them periodic e-mail message. Linking the e-mail messages to course content encourage integration of new vocabulary and forms and also discourage overuse of the dictionary can lead to frustration and discouragement. As lecturers should respond promptly to the student messages, they should keep in mind how much time they would like to spend on the exchange and design the assignment accordingly. Then lecturers can over their students the opportunity to confer with them electronically about their writing. This possibility is very useful especially when a class meets only one or twice a week. Students can e-mail their questions to the lecturers, without having to wait for the next class session.

Students can also utilize e-mail to submit their composition assignment as soon as they are finished. The lecturers can then make comments and return the assignments to the students electronically. The teacher's comment may have a more notable effect on student's revising process when the feedback is received shortly after the writing is completed.

Instructional Technology in English Teaching

The most common technology used by all the lecturers in their teaching activities. Students believed that they take better notes during lectures orded with powerpoint slides, and the notes tend to be more organized, easier to understand, and useful when studying for test. It seemed that powerpoint can be an effective tool to present material in the classroom and encourage student learning. This section will highlight ways or procedure in implementing or applying the using of power point in teaching and learning process. One of step as follow:

- Preparing for the presentation.
- Consider time and effort in preparing a power point presentation.
- Power point is especially useful when providing course material online.
- If you be using your own laptop, be sure the classroom is equipped with the proper cables, drivers, and other means to display presentation.
- Be sure to properly cite source material when using visuals obtained from the internet or other sources

Slide content

- Avoid text-dense slides- it's better to have more slides than trying to place too much text on one slide.
- Use brief points instead of long sentences or paragraph.
- Consider using different color slide background to change the pace of the presentation.
- Add motion, sound or music only when necessary.
- Excessive movement within or between slides can interfere with the message and can be annoying.

The presentation

- Power point should provide keywords, concepts, and images to enhance your presentation.
- Avoid reading from the slide. Because it can be perceived as though you do not know the material.
- Avoid rapidly moving the laser pointer accross the slide.
- Allow no more than one to two slides per minute of content.
- Stand to one side of the screen and face the audience while presenting.
- Learn to usepower point efficiently and have a back-up plan in case of technical failure.
- Give yourself enough time to finish the presentation.
- Trying to rush through slides can give impressive of an unorganized presentation and may be difficult for student to follow

In addition, Bagwell (2008:134) states that some procedures which can be used in teaching vocabulary by using power point animations, they are:

- The teacher used a power point slide show, a laptop computer to teach and review the vocabulary. Here, before the teacher come to the classroom, the teacher will prepares the media and material at home.
- Used a picture to reinforce the material. The teacher will show the picture to brainstorm the students to reinforce the material shows slide displayed a

vocabulary word. The slideshow that is presented by the teacher will input the vocabulary word that has been created by the teacher using power point animation.

- Give definition of the words. The teacher will give definition of the words directly to the students after the teacher ask them before.
- Use of the word in a sentence. The teacher use the words in a sentence to remember the words.

Referring to the explanation above, it can be summarized that there are some steps in implementing power point as an instructional technology in teaching learning activity. using power point can not be separated with using other media such as laptop/computer and LCD projector and also e-mail especially when using visual obtained from internet.

Conclusion

The use of it serves a number of advantages; helping the student understand the information, facilitating discussion, and sharing information. The most beneficial uses of technology seem to be posting an outline of notes on the web or setting up a website for the student to access information, assignment, grades and so forth. It is appeared that students enjoyed and appreciated integrating instructional technology into the classroom. The use of multiple presentation modes such as power point, laptop/computer, LCD projector and e-mail seemed to “keep interesting”. The largest advantage for learning was not dependent on specific technology used in the classroom, but being able to use the instructional technology to present the material in a smooth coordinated manner. However, the students did not feel that technology should ever replace the duties of the instructor. They still sometime need that face-to-face communication with their lecturers and sometimes can learn better or are more motivated when sitting in the classroom.

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