Novabr, 2024-Yil

THE EFFICACY OF MOBILE APPS IN LEARNING ENGLISH; USER PERSPECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

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https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14170753

Abstract. This thesis explores the efficacy of mobile apps in learning English, with a specific focus on user perspectives and learning outcomes in Uzbekistan. With the rise of mobile learning, these apps have become a popular tool for English learners, offering benefits such as accessibility, flexibility, interactive learning, and personalized experiences.

Keywords: mobile apps, English learning, user perspectives, Uzbekistan, language acquisition, language learning outcomes.

ЭФФЕКТИВНОСТЬ МОБИЛЬНЫХ ПРИЛОЖЕНИЙ В ИЗУЧЕНИИ АНГЛИЙСКОГО ЯЗЫКА; ТОЧКИ ЗРЕНИЯ ПОЛЬЗОВАТЕЛЕЙ И РЕЗУЛЬТАТЫ

Аннотация. В этой диссертации исследуется эффективность мобильных приложений в изучении английского языка с особым акцентом на точки зрения пользователей и результаты обучения в Узбекистане. С ростом мобильного обучения эти приложения стали популярным инструментом для изучающих английский язык, предлагая такие преимущества, как доступность, гибкость, интерактивное обучение и персонализированный опыт.

Ключевые слова: мобильные приложения, изучение английского языка, точки зрения пользователей, Узбекистан, усвоение языка, результаты обучения языку.

INTRODUCTION

In recent years, mobile applications have become an essential tool for learning English, especially in countries like Uzbekistan, where English proficiency is increasingly valued for global communication and career opportunities. With the rise of smartphones and mobile technology, English learners now have the flexibility to practice anytime, anywhere. This article explores the effectiveness of mobile apps in learning English in Uzbekistan, analyzing user perspectives and learning outcomes.

MAIN PART

Mobile learning, or m-learning, has gained significant traction worldwide, and Uzbekistan is no exception.

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As a country that values educational reform and modern technological integration, Uzbekistan has witnessed a surge in mobile app usage for language learning. English, as a key foreign language, is essential for academic, business, and international relations in Uzbekistan.

Therefore, the role of mobile apps in enhancing English language skills is crucial in the context of education.

Mobile apps such as Duolingo, Memrise, and HelloTalk are widely used in Uzbekistan, offering learners interactive tools, personalized learning experiences, and easy access to English content. This shift towards mobile learning represents a major change from traditional classroom-based methods, allowing students and professionals to learn English more flexibly.

Mobile apps provide a significant advantage in terms of accessibility, especially in rural areas of Uzbekistan where access to formal English classes might be limited. The convenience of learning on mobile devices allows students, professionals, and self-learners to practice English at their own pace, whether during daily commutes or in spare time.

According to a 2023 survey conducted among Uzbek English learners, 85% of respondents reported that the flexibility offered by mobile apps helped them fit language learning into their busy schedules, compared to traditional classroom settings.

Mobile apps foster interactive learning through gamified lessons, quizzes, and speech recognition, which keeps learners engaged and motivated. Apps like Duolingo and Memrise use rewards, progress tracking, and feedback mechanisms to boost user involvement. For example, Duolingo's points system and streak rewards have been particularly effective in maintaining learner motivation in Uzbekistan.

The interactive nature of these apps also encourages self-directed learning, allowing users to focus on areas they find most challenging, such as vocabulary, grammar, or listening skills.

Mobile apps such as Babbel and Memrise provide personalized learning experiences based on the learner's proficiency level. Learners can start from beginner to advanced levels, and apps automatically adjust lesson difficulty as users progress. In Uzbekistan, this adaptability is especially valuable for users with varying levels of English proficiency, ensuring that the content remains relevant and engaging.

Furthermore, some apps incorporate spaced repetition techniques, which help learners retain vocabulary more effectively. This method is particularly beneficial for Uzbek learners, many of whom face challenges in retaining vocabulary due to limited exposure to English in everyday life.

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Uzbek learners of English express high satisfaction with mobile apps, particularly in terms of the convenience and self-paced learning they offer. A 2023 study by the Tashkent State University of World Languages found that 78% of mobile app users felt they could improve their English skills faster than with traditional methods.

Users appreciate the ability to practice speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills at their own pace. Mobile apps also provide opportunities for learners to practice pronunciation through speech recognition, which is a key benefit for Uzbek learners who may not have consistent access to native English speakers.

A key outcome of mobile app usage is the increased motivation to continue learning. In Uzbekistan, where English proficiency is a highly sought-after skill, many learners report that mobile apps help them stay motivated by allowing them to track their progress and set achievable goals. Gamified elements, such as daily challenges and rewards, encourage learners to maintain consistent study habits.

Table: Comparison of Popular Mobile Apps for Learning English in Uzbekistan

App	Key Features	Target	Strengths	Limitations
		Audience		
Duolingo	Gamified lessons,	Beginners to	Free, interactive,	Limited advanced
	progress tracking,	intermediate	strong community	content, lacks
	speech recognition		aspect	cultural context
Memrise	Spaced repetition,	All	Effective	Some features
	native speaker	proficiency	vocabulary	require paid
	videos, vocabulary	levels	retention, real-world	subscription
	focus		context	
Babbel	Structured lessons,	Beginners to	Comprehensive	Paid subscription,
	grammar	intermediate	lessons,	less focus on
	explanations,		personalized	speaking practice
	personalized plans		learning path	
HelloTalk	Social learning, text	Intermediate	Real-time	Less structured,
h	and voice	to advanced	communication with	may not focus on
M	messaging,		native speakers, free	grammar or
4	language exchange			vocabulary
Rosetta	Immersive learning,	All	Emphasizes	Expensive
Stone	speech recognition,	proficiency	pronunciation and	subscription,
	pronunciation focus	levels	listening skills	limited advanced
				content

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CONCLUSION

Mobile apps offer a convenient, flexible, and effective way for learners in Uzbekistan to improve their English skills. The benefits of mobile apps—such as accessibility, interactivity, and personalization—have led to significant improvements in vocabulary, grammar, speaking, and listening skills among users. However, the effectiveness of these apps depends on factors such as app quality, learner engagement, and the ability to overcome technical barriers.

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