Ways Of Implementing Wiki Technology In Teaching English

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ABSTRACT

In this article methodological potential of Wiki technology in teaching English is considered. Moreover, didactic features, advantages and implementation methods of this technology in English classroom are examined.

KEYWORDS

Digital, technology, Wiki, media, internet, didactic, Web2.0., hybrid, debate

INTRODUCTION

It is well known that the rapid growth and spread of digital technologies in the last few decades has affected all aspects of our life and education field as well.

Informatization of language education is gradually becoming a priority of foreign language teaching methods. Second-generation Internet tools such as social

networks, social media repositories, blogs, video blogs, Wikis, podcasts not only provide endless information on the Internet, but also provide the opportunity to learn and communicate internationally from a single educational institution or place. These unique features allow students to use social services to organize new interactive individual and group types of work in foreign language teaching.

Interactivity is one of the main features of information and communication technologies in the educational process which implements the didactic features of ICT, such as communicativeness (ability to exchange information through various electronic means of communication), flexibility (maintaining a comfortable environment in the learning process), productivity (ability to change or supplement information) and creativity (ability to create or solve) .The use of social services in foreign language teaching helps to develop communicative competence in a foreign language, as well as a culture of communication between students and each other and the teacher, and their skills in the field of information and communication technologies.

Another convenient web tool for learning a foreign language is Wiki - technology, which was presented to the whole world in 1995 by Ward Cunningham who launched a web version of his project. At the time, the concepts he was pioneering didn't have well-defined names, and neither did his technology. Cunningham almost called it Quick Web, but changed it after remembering a trip to Hawaii where he'd been instructed to take the "Wiki Wiki Bus" at the airport. "Wiki" meant "quick"

and it had the bonus of starting with a "W," so Cunningham went with the name WikiWikiWeb for the site. Because of naming conventions in Unix, the technology also needed a short name. As a result of that, the "Wiki" was coined.

Wiki technology is a type of Web 2.0 service that allows one person or a group of people at a distance to work on creating, modifying, and adding a single document. The name of the service "Wiki" is derived from the Hawaiian language, which means "fast" and means fast access to data. Later, the term **What I Know Is** was coined in English as a backronym. This technology is sufficiently grounded and reflects the dynamics of working with the material. An infinite number of people who are far apart from each other through the internet can participate in the creation of Wiki pages. Each registered user of the Wiki service can participate in the process of creating, adding, editing and removing any topic content and content (site content, including text materials, images, photos, audio and video files, links to other Internet resources) or Wiki -can return to the original page. As a result of re-editing, a more accurate and relatively complete information material is formed, reflecting different views on the issue under discussion.

A distinctive feature of Wiki technology is the ability to use this tool as a platform to manage the learning process. The use of the Wiki as an effective teaching and learning tool to improve the learning process is now gaining popularity. Because collaborative learning is an important part of teaching and learning, Wiki-technology makes the process easier for us.

Wiki technology is open and free that means that anyone can use the technology for free

and even modify its code, as well as reuse the embedded material, i.e. copy, publish, modify, as many Wiki texts are published on a copy basis.

The main advantage of Wiki technology is that it can be widely used in traditional, hybrid or online classes to gather information, evaluate, and develop collaboration among students.

Currently in the pandemic period, the use of Wiki technology in the course of practical training allows students to create a unique online experience. This basically helps them to self - control.

To use the Wiki effectively, you first need to determine which Wiki website is appropriate for you and your group.

In teaching English, Wikipedia can be used effectively as a source of information to culturally enrich students' language practice and develop their reading skills. It is highly recommended to use Wiki servers designed specifically for educational purposes to develop students' writing skills. The following Wikis are widely used in foreign language teaching: PBWorks http://pbworks.com/, MediaWiki http://www.mediaWiki.org, TikiWiki http://info.tikiWiki.org/tiki-index.php, TWiki http: //tWiki.org, Posterous http://posterous.com/, Wetpaint http://www.wetpaint.com/, ProjectForum http://www.projectforum.com/pf/Wiki.html, Wikka Wiki http: / /wikkaWiki.org, Mixedink http://www.mixedink.com/main.php and others.

Why Wiki?

Effective use of Wiki technology has several advantages:

- It can be the basis of collaborative learning because this technology allows students to find solutions to problems within a group, to work together on a given project.
- This technology is mainly useful in developing students 'writing skills, which is one of the English language skills.
- Wiki creates an interactive learning environment using the Wiki.
- Wiki-technology encourages students to activate their writing and discussion skills during the lesson.
- Wiki can help you prepare your students for the 21st century job places by developing their digital literacy skills.

How?

Here are some guidelines for teachers to use Wiki technology in the teaching process:

- Define clear rules and results;
- Explain to students what you expect from them and how students 'work will be evaluated, preferably developing a rubric;
- Enter detailed instructions;
- Give authentic tasks;
- Clearly define the roles and activities of students;
- Carefully monitor student activities;
- Ask students to review and comment on each other's writing materials;
- Encourage interaction;
- Get to know the Wikis yourself;

What assignments and tasks?

We can accomplish the following tasks and activities with students using Wiki technology:

- ✓ Create manuals, textbooks, dictionaries collaboratively

- ✓ Create a group project in bibliographic form;
- ✓ Correct spelling mistakes in created manual or textbook;
- ✓ Any project that does not require copyright;
- ✓ Plan various events such as scientific conferences;
- ✓ Create handouts together with students;
- ✓ Create books or magazines for students in collaboration, i.e. Workbooks;
- ✓ Conduct discussions or debates, etc.;

Here some samples of tasks are given.

For example, a topic is selected from Wikipedia and given as facts. Students then use their knowledge and skills to correct or supplement the information.

Another task is to speak about yourself in English. Speaking on this topic in the first lesson is usually required. To make this task fun, we tell the student to create their own personal page using Wiki technology. This site opens for a specific group, and all group members enter information about themselves on this site in English. They are then linked to the Wiki home page. In the process of acquaintance, a student with a higher level of English can easily find and correct grammatical, stylistic errors and omissions in the information entered in English.

Another task aimed at developing writing skills is "A book or film review". Students were asked to make a list of the movies they had seen or the books they had read (around 8-10). Once the list is ready, they should choose one of them and write a comment on it. This process is also done using Wiki technology.

Students read reviews of this book or film on the internet and add their own comments.

Christopher Papas, the founder of the e-learning industry, also offers students the following tasks as a task using Wiki technology:

The student is an editor.

In this task, we make the complex grammar of the English language a fun and competitive game. Text with grammatical errors is given in the requirements and students are told to use the Wiki to edit it. The teacher can also divide the students into groups, and the group with the most edits wins.

Poetry lesson.

This task not only introduces students to English poetry, but also increases their interest in poetry and allows them to present their creative products to the public. The teacher posts any English poem on the internet and asks the students to discuss its meaning.

In conclusion it can be noted that application of Wiki technology in the classroom not only develops students' writing skills, but also provides a number of potential benefits for students and teachers, including the ability to share information, share knowledge, facilitate collaboration, social learning and giving online feedback. In addition, this technology makes the difficult task of the teacher much easier.

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