VIRTUAL ENGLISH CLASSROOMS

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Social media popularly known as social networks is used a tool for teaching and learning English in this decade. This is termed as SMLL-Social Media Language Learning. With the help of internet these social media sites enable the users to interact and share the ideas, publish content, or conduct a test. Acquisition of a language depends on the social aspects which are considered when a language is learnt. Language skill is enhanced because of the different ambience social media creates. Learning through social media facilitates the learners to learn a content online forsaking the four walled classrooms. It enables real time discussions, clarifications, exchange of ideas and sharing of materials with the help of a teacher online or through the instructions stated by the teacher.

INTRODUCTION

Social media Language learning concepts certainly owes to Idiomplus a company in Barcelona. They initiated the concept of social media for acquiring Language. With the presence or absence of the teacher learning takes place, it is the primary concept of SMLL. However the concepts stated in CLT-Communicative Language Teaching are implied in SMLL for instance pronunciation and grammar is least focused and understanding the concept is of great importance.

SMLL-Social Media Language Learning focuses on the following concepts:

1. Target language contents should be comprehended and interpretation of the content in the target language in another media and publishing it.

2. The personal interest and mood of the learner without any hindrance is expressed here. There are two forms of language dialects-colloquial and formal both are same in this concept. Freedom of expression is certain in this method.

3. Making interactions, greeting people, understanding their nature, culture comes along with language acquisition.

4. Working knowledge in internet, typing, downloading, editing, uploading and publishing contents also happen with SMLL-Social Media Language Learning.

5. The learners learn by themselves without any intervention or support. Learning happens every day continuously, meeting the teacher sharing the ideas all happen in a pleasant ambience at the convenient time, place and leisure.

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TUMBLR

Yahoo organization in the year 2007 initiated Tumblr a social media platform that facilitates teachers to post multimedia content owing to David Karp its founder. New york the head of this social media holds nearly 550 million visitors every fortnight. Teachers and learners Blogs could be attached to tumblr and with the dash board interface it operates. 282.1 million Blogs attached to it is an example for the usability of this social site. It started with the term tumble blogs meaning short form blogs. On 20th of May 2013 yahoo company acquired tumblr. Through the dashboard tool the users of tumblr comment or post contents. Tumblr help a learner to connect the created blog to get attached to his twitter and face book hence the posts made in tumblr reaches as a tweet in twitter also. Tumblr has a fascinating feature setting time limit for the posts. If a teacher does not want send all the materials at the same time to a student, he can place it in queue so that his material will be sent with the interval of two or three hours. The content posted by a tumblr user will be with a tag or a hint. Using the hint or tag the receiver, learner receives the exact content he intends. A tumblr user enjoys a privilege of creating his page in his style using HTML editing feature. Earlier Black berry mobile users enjoyed the privilege of tumblr application. Recently tumblr mobile app was released for all windows and android users. 56 million posts per day on tumblr prove that it is one of the leading social networking sites for language teachers and learners.

LIVE MOCHA

When we travel, our business, our education or our arts English has become our gateway. Though English has less number of native speakers compare to Chinese it stands second to none in terms of lingua Franca. A recent research states that nearly one billion people around the world are learners of English today. This vibrant, astonishing living language is learnt through live mocha.

Live Mocha helps a learner to learn thirty five languages. If an individual is interested in learning 35 languages of the world, at free of cost, Live Mocha paves way for the learner. English, Arabic, Belaursian, Bulgarian, Catalan, Chinese, Croatian, Dutch, Esperanto, farsi, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese Korean, Latvian, Lithuanian, Marathi, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak , Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, ukranian, urdu are the thirty five languages one can learn through Live mocha.

Live mocha helps the learners to get immersed in language learning. It is a community of language specialists and native speakers who are interested in their culture and tradition through their language. The members provide exercises pertaining to their language; engage in conversation using audio or video chat. Practice conversation with the learner paves way for enhancing communicative

skills in a targeted language. Listening, speaking, reading and writing skill practice is given through live mocha. Practice exercises, learn concepts and start to communicate.

The exercises completed can be submitted to the community and the available language experts examine the sheets and pass on their corrections, suggestions and instructions so as to enable the learner to enhance his or her skill. Comments and feedback from a native speaker immediately after completing an exercise actually motivates the learner to do more such exercises and submit.

Listening and Writing skill

Live mocha helps the learner to read content and write comments on it complete the dialogue exercises, fill in the blanks exercises helps to enhance writing skill of the learner in his target language. Comprehension passage is available wherein the listener listens a passage and writes the answer in the space provided which enhances his skills.

Reading and Speaking skill

Live mocha helps the learner to read content speak what he or she has read. Learner pronounces a word or a sentence and sends it back to the native teacher for approval. The teacher comments are based on the perfection of the answers and appropriate words and coinages used in the appropriate places using perfect grammar of the target language.

A recent research has proved that nearly sixteen million people use Live mocha as a tool for enhancing their language. Nearly one million English teachers of this world share their views and are in a teaching community group. Nearly thirty thousand people learn six languages at the same time through the nine thousand experts who can speak and write six languages. Live mocha has reached all the countries and all the continents hence this researcher wants all our Indian teachers to probe into live mocha and teach English through this fascinating mode. The sole purpose of discussing live mocha in this research is that this researcher wants the Tamil Natives of TamilNadu to learn through the most interesting tool of learning when they are fed up of clichéd classroom activities.

It is a pitiable fact that India stands only the fifth country that represents Live mocha the top four being Brazil, United states, China and Columbia. English occupies the predominant position in the statistical analysis of the top five languages learnt through live mocha. The remaining four are Portuguese, Spanish, mandarin and Arabic.

Live mocha enhances English Learning

A learner becomes a member of a live mocha community by furnishing the basic details. The learner selects his native language and the target language, the language

which he or she wants to expertise. Fourty nine thousand five hundred points are given to the learner, with which he could probe into the lessons. Demonstration method is followed for effective learning. Observing content, learning content, practicing a content are the three steps involved in learning. Native speakers in real life situation are shown to the learner in the beginning. For example, a boy starts to his school is the situation, his conversation with his parents when he takes his breakfast is the first video shown. The vocabulary, grammatical parts involved in the conversation is deconstructed by the learner, reassembling the components like finding out the missing word, completing the dialogue are all given for practice to the learner. Activity performed by the learner is sent to the evaluator; the learner can raise his or her doubt through text or through a video chat and thereby clarifies the doubts in the target language.

BUSUU

In a place called Cameroon, only eight people were well versed in a Language called Busuu. In 2008, a social networking site for learning twelve languages through audio-visual means was introduced in the name Busuu. When we take into account Social networks for language learning Busuu is the largest social network in the universe for learning a language. Learners have a privilege of using Busuu as an application in their mobile phone or as an online site to learn twelve languages including, Chinese, Japanese, Arabic, German, Italian, French, English, Spanish, polish, Portuguese. It offers both free coaching and premium paid coaching to learners.

One hundred and fifty units of lessons of many languages a learner can probe into. Speaking exercises, comprehension and other mode of tests are conducted by the teacher. Completed exercises can be sent through Busuu online and video and audio chat web cam interactions are all possible. Every Busuu member teaches his mother tongue to people and also learns the target languages. For kids also i-pad applications are formed by Busuu namely kids learn language with Busuu. Busuu is a free application for all android users, 11 language apps can be downloaded. Podcasting contents and few working sheets come under premium basis.

Busuu enables the learner to use Flash cards, conversations between the native speakers, writing exercises, audio and video chat with native speakers, national geographic pictures and writing exercises. It conducts courses like Travel course, Business course, and various levels of tests. The submitted exercises of the learner are examined by many native speakers for accuracy and betterment. Hence Busuu remains as a destination for learning twelve languages through online.

The sailent feature of Busuu

❖ Busuu has been acclaimed as the 'the must have app' by Google.

❖ The New York Times has praised it as 'easy to use and feels cheerful'

- ❖ 'easier way to learn' praises The Forbes
- ❖ BBC news has praised it as "quicker, smarter, better"
- ❖ Busuu bagged Silver lion award in the international advertising festival.
- ❖ Busuu is a nominee in the Tech crunch awards in 2009.
- ❖ Won the Tech Crunch award in 2011 for best education starter.
- ❖ In 2014 Busuu won EdTech innovator award.
- ❖ The seven ventures pitch day prize of four million Euro was bagged by Busuu in November 2012.

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