The New Approach to College English Teaching Reform by Computer and Internet Technology

Ting ZHOU
Wuhan Polytechnic University
44108384@qq.com

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Abstract. In the information dominated age, the traditional college English teaching mode shows more and more disadvantages, as a result of which the exploration on a new approach in college English teaching is urgent. And the development of computer and internet technology provides a new perspective in college English teaching reform. Exploring the positive impacts and limits of the multimedia and internet in college English teaching, combining traditional teaching mode with multimedia and internet, this paper aims to discuss the best way to achieve the most effective teaching mode.

Introduction

With the changes of time, popularization of computer and development of internet technology, domestic universities have established their own multimedia classrooms and internet centers. Based on the condition that college students surged because of enrollment expansion, the National Ministry of Education specially formulated College English Curriculum Requirements, which points out that ,"considering the rapid growth in the quantity of college enrollments in China and relative limits of available education resource, we should make full use of multimedia and internet technology, give priority to new teaching mode, and adopt the new teaching model to improve the teaching model which taught only by teachers in class originally. "[1] Thus it can be seen that in the information dominated age, the traditional college English teaching mode shows more and more disadvantages, as a result of which the exploration on a new approach in college English teaching is urgent. The development of computer and internet technology provides a new perspective in college English teaching reform. By exploring the positive impacts and limits that the multimedia and internet has in college English teaching, this paper considers the best way to achieve the most effective teaching is to combine traditional teaching mode with multimedia and internet.

The Advantages of Multimedia-assisted College English Teaching

The multimedia teaching method combines many audio-Visual media, such as computer, video, television, the computer-assisted teaching method applied projection as a tool with traditional teaching media, such as the blackboard, wall charts and so on. [2] Multimedia teaching is mainly used in classroom teaching.

Multimedia-assisted College English Teaching Provides Students with a lot of Information, which Enriches the Teaching Contents

Comparing with oral instruction and consistent writing on the blackboard, the multimedia technology improves the efficiency of classroom teaching and makes more time for students to interact with teachers, which is beneficial to the "student-centered" teaching method, because the teacher can dynamically show more cultural background knowledge in the limited class time.
Multimedia-assisted College English Teaching Achieves the Situational Foreign Language Teaching

The first impression of traditional education teaching mode is campus fence, teaching environment includes teacher, chalk, blackboard, and some simple charts and teaching model. Teachers teach students according to the systematic, complete, rigorous, standardized teaching content, the specific teaching objectives and requirements, teachers are instructor, while students are passive knowledge receiver. Such dull teaching mode bores students very easily. Instead, text, images, animation, multimedia environment can stimulate students' visual sense; Authentic English dialogue, original film and TV program segments under multimedia environment lead the students into natural pure English language environment, just like learning his mother language in childhood, which helps them gradually mastered the knowledge of English. Teaching becomes more interesting and more efficient with multimedia-assisted teaching methods.

Multimedia-assisted College English Teaching Improves the Effect of Large Classes’ Teaching

In recent years, due to the massive expansive enrollment, the teaching facilities cannot meet the need of being the small-class teaching. As a result, the English teaching class consists of students ranging from four or five dickers to nearly one hundred nowadays, which hinders the classroom communication between teachers and students, distracts students easily, and affects the lecture learning of students who is in the back of the classroom, distracts students involving opportunities and increases the difficulty of getting feedback information. By using multimedia equipment, the information and materials can be clearly shown, which not only saves class time, but also attracts students’ attentions and concerns to the key content. Speaking time and involving opportunities should be given to students as more as possible to prevent English class from being a lecture model teaching.

The Advantage of Network-based College English Teaching

The internet teaching uses a combination of modern communication technology, computer technology and modern network technology, especially the Internet which adopts the new education mode with interactive learning. Two basic characteristics typify the internet teaching: basing on the network (differ from the implication of multimedia assisted-instruction) and interaction. “internet education” emphasizes teaching by internet, which includes not only the local area network (like campus network), but also remote network education through WAN. In this mode, the material entity between teachers and students are mutual separated, students are regarded as the center. Teaching information are transmitted and fed back by media technology in order to pursue the most effective teaching.

In recent years, colleges and universities generally established foreign language audio-visual platform based on campus internet. What is called language audio-visual platform based on campus internet? It is to build an interactive platform for teachers and students based on campus network in the practice of college foreign language as well as indoor classes and extracurricular activities. Some dissemination media, characters, images, sound, animation and videos are able to provide some knowledge which is essential but unavailable in classes. They are also beneficial for improving language levels and comprehensive qualities of students. Internet technology can be combined with these media so that students have access to learn English everywhere and communicate with teachers and classmates. [3] There are different kinds of English learning sources of various degrees that can satisfy the needs of the students of different English level. Teachers can also post the selective learning resources to the network teaching platform for students to share and download.
The Internet-assisted college English Teaching Breaks the Limitations of time and Space, Making learning Environments More Independent.

With a computer linked to internet, the learner can begin online learning without any restrictions. In addition, each learner's learning time, contents and pace can depend on their real conditions. Online learning also provides students a platform where they can download pertinent learning information or consult with teachers and students at any time.

The Internet-assisted College English Teaching Introduces New Approaches to Teach, Making the Forms of Learning Diversified

With Internet, students can make full use of the online teaching platform, campus internet and e-library to look for information or learning. [4]. Besides students can discuss learning problems online, exchange learning experience and promote mutual progress; teachers can answer students’ questions online, urge students to learn, as a result, students can provide some conductive advice for teaching, which can improve both teaching and learning. At the same time, students can enjoy communications with foreigners through chatting apps and E-mails.

Online Teaching Provides Students with More Relaxing Atmosphere than Class Teaching, Which will be Good for Inferior Students

In class, students will encounter irritable and impatient teachers or many superior students with swift response, better learning foundation, and it will put fear and stress on inferior students with weak foundation, make them afraid to speak actively or participate in class activities. In the long run, students will lose interest in English even give up learning. However, under online learning environments, students only face computers directly without the disturbance from outside world so that they have enough time to deliberate carefully before answering questions. Therefore, students can make progress more confidently.

The Limits of Multi-media and Online Teaching

Overusing of multi-media and Internet Puzzles Students about When to Learn or When to Entertain

The delicate courseware is made by teachers in order to attract students’ attention. At first, students will be interested in it, and find it not that boring or bothering. All of the diverting animations, fantastic hot films and TV dramas illustrate that we can grasp English entertainment. That being said, overemphasizing the use of multi-media and Internet will make students forget the fact that significant progress in English learning must be made by long-time, boring training and accumulation. Learning in nature is an arduous journey.

Overusing of multi-media and Internet Hinders the Communications between Teachers and Students and Weakens the Learning Effect

In a process of language learning, cognition and emotion are two indispensable aspects of all-round development, and both of them can’t be separated from each other. Language learning is achieved through cognition, but solving the emotional problems will contribute to improving the effects of language learning.[5]. If teachers only display different kinds of courseware and large quantity of information in class, the time to communicate with students will be lessened, which becomes a duck-fed teaching. Not paying attention to the emotional communication with students goes against rules of teaching cognition and principles, and without teacher’s encouragement, appreciation and suggestion, students can’t be motivated to learn, thus crippling learning efficiency and results.

Computer’s Demerit Defines that the Teachers and Students can not Excessively Rely on Media and Internet

Under current situations, students learn online outside the class when teachers cannot monitor the real learning situation. And the result is that many students are addicted to online entertainment and the teachers cannot prevent students from copying answers on the Internet while doing exercises.
Conclusion

Reforming the traditional teaching method does not mean abandoning systematically guided elicitation method of teaching or the harmonious relationship between teachers and students. The core and subject of teaching is human-student. From pedagogy and psychology, in the long term teaching, only by using various emotional strategies, coupled with teaching methods can we give students motivation and confidence to work hard. Therefore class teaching and teachers still play a leading role in education. Besides that, using media and Internet as an assisted teaching method will make teaching methods more various and flexible.

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References


