The Innovation of English Listening Teaching under the Background of “Internet+”

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Abstract. With the further development of the information era, the “Internet+” has become so powerful in education. Based on the discussion of the features of the “Internet+”, namely, more convenient, authentic, open, shared, and efficient features were summed up, therefore, five methods were put forward in innovating the English listening teaching under the background of “Internet+”.

Introduction

Nowadays, based on the internet, what is English listening teaching like? Many English teachers have already started to think about this problem. With the internet, English listening teaching becomes quite different now, it is no longer the traditional, teacher-centered listening teaching, it has become a modern, student-centered teaching based-on internet, which has brought about great convenience to listening teaching. Therefore, the internet has already become one indispensable part for English listening teaching, which makes listening teaching become more flexible and efficient, and also promotes the innovation and evolution of listening teaching. What features the internet+ works and how it can be made best use of in listening teaching are the two problems that will be discussed as follows.

The Features of “Internet +” Background

With the development of digital technology, the internet has become a major communication media, and it becomes a combination of a variety of information resources together, it provides all kinds of information, such as political, economical, historical, geographical, cultural, sports, entertaining, healthy, technological, environmental information and so on. The network is just like an enormous electronic library or all-embracing digital encyclopedias. With the idea of “the internet + plans” put forward in 2015, the internet+education has become a heated topic in the education field. In order to improve English majors listening teaching, the study of the features of the internet + comes first.

More Convenient

The network has provided great convenience for English listening teaching.

Firstly, the internet provides multiple information on every aspect, such as English videos, animated cartoons, films and news etc. Compared with traditional teaching methods, listening teaching with the help of network has the obvious superiority. Listening teaching not only depends on the textbooks and their CDs, or other listening materials, but also depends on the latest internet news, films, TV serials, magazines, and newspapers, they are much more convenient for teachers to use them in their classes, which cannot be competed by the previous listening teaching.

Secondly, the internet does work without any restriction of time and regions. The users can find information anywhere and anytime. Traditional teaching material is much behind the times. The network now provides an abundance of information without restriction in time and region, no matter when and where the teachers want to find information or materials, they can get them regardless of the limit of time and regions. So teachers and students can, at any time, after school or in class, link to the internet to find the information that they want.
Thirdly, the internet makes people much closer to the world. The things happened in one place, for the next moment it would be known to all the world through the internet, the internet always provides the latest information for English learning. By the network, current newspapers and periodicals are easily accessible to learners, such as China Daily, People’s Daily and etc. And learners can also listen to the English programme through the Internet, such as BBC, VOA, CNN and other Chinese and foreign medias. The information in the internet has no national boundary, teachers and students become much closer to the world. The internet provides an underlying platform to facilitate teachers and their teaching.

Fourthly, the internet provides all kinds of tools for communication, such as Facebook, QQ, We-chat, E-mail and so on, teachers can use them to establish a number of groups or language learning forum consisting of teachers and students to study English. Thus these on-line learning groups and off-line classroom coming together, teachers’ teaching become more convenient.

More Authentic

The internet provides more videos, interviews, speeches, lectures, and even live broadcast, these are considered as authentic language learning materials, such as BBC, VOA, or CNN, and so on, to some extent, they can be regarded as authentic learning environments.[1] With the help of the internet, teachers are greatly easier to find more authentic listening materials being used in listening classes, so that the students can have chances to learn in an authentic environment, students may have more time to listen to authentic English or watch authentic English films or other English programs. Authentic English learning environment, to some extent, is a great guarantee for students to improve their English levels.

More Open

The “internet +”, esp. with the coming of 5G era, which will start a new era in which everything can be connected, has made education become a lot opener education, and the openness of 5G is of an importance of an epoch era [2], which has broken the barriers of schools, classrooms, so learners can learn anywhere, not only limited in schools, which improves the efficiency of learning and saves a lot of time for the learners. So teachers or students themselves may choose some of them for students or themselves to use. In this sense, teachers already become good directors.

More Shared

Share is one important feature of the internet information. Usually, share takes place within different fields and regions, so share is dynamic, and also share means superiority or benefit or interest, once you share certain information, which means you already own certain superiority, benefit or interest because information has its own value. Why the internet has become so popular in that the internet has been providing useful information for different users, and that is the reason that the internet functions increasingly successfully. Owning these information, people would manage to get the most benefit from it.[3] With the arrival of 5G era, the faster the internet becomes, the more information it provides, and the dynamic share would take place among more circles, and it would benefit more people.

More Efficient

Besides the classroom English learning, students still have a more efficient learning way with the help of the internet, under such English learning environment can students improve their English by using all their spare time in learning internet English efficiently. Students can break through the boundaries of space-saving educational resources significantly, and the interaction between teachers and students can achieve more feedback and communication than traditional learning, internet-based English learning is easy and efficient.
The Solution to the Listening Teaching under the Background of “Internet +”

Make Good Use of the “Internet+”

Based on the study of the features of the “internet+”, the study of the application of the “internet+” listening comes next. With the help of other researchers and their practices, the following methods are summed up.

Firstly, select scientifically. Teachers should consider what to choose, how to choose, why to choose, where to choose. These are necessary factors for the material to be selected. Only by the four factors can the teacher select certain suitable material to be used. Secondly, use wisely. On the internet, there are too much information, the biggest problem is how to use it wisely. Using the information or other materials wisely is to use certain material in listening class to develop students’ listening ability. Nowadays, some applications are suggested, such as tutor ABC, English Radio, etc.

Establish Study Group

In order to organize a better study environment, teachers can establish or send students to establish all kinds of study groups, such as QQ or Wechat groups, we also can rely on some applications such as Lanmoyun, to establish class groups, then teachers can post and share some teaching information in we-media[4], students can surf on the internet from computers or even their mobile phones, and they can post their questions or doubts, so teachers or some other students can give their hands through this platform. And this is the way to realize the combination of online teaching and offline teaching together.

Apply or Combine the Teaching Method(s) in Study Groups

In teaching class, based on internet, certain teaching method or methods can be applied, such as cooperative learning method [5], task-based learning method, problem-based learning (PBL for short) [6], and the blending learning mode [7], students groups are assigned to do the same task or different tasks, the results of their tasks can be shared and checked by all participants, not only students themselves but also teachers and some onlookers. In this way can students be encouraged to develop their own we-chat public number to share to all English learners. Nowadays, the blend learning mode has become so popular that it has become the main direction of the e-time teaching reformation, and a close-circle education ecosystem from online to offline should be built.[8]

Innovate the Modes of Training

Training is to practice trainees’ certain skills by different modes. In the previous listening class, did only the teacher supply students with the listening material, however, in the new era of e-learning, the teacher should direct students to use the online material and textbook material, and what is most important is to innovate the modes of training, even though there are too many materials, the training modes should be often adjusted and innovated, and then the students’ skills can be developed to some extent. The training mode innovation is the key stage for students’ listening skills cultivation, without good training modes, there would be no any greater progress in students’ skills cultivation. Innovation has played a very important role in China’s economic development, and in the information evolution, innovation simultaneously will play the same role in education, and the future English teaching is just the evolution of innovating, efficiently and flexibly making use of digital technology, so innovation of the teaching modes is the key stage for developing students’ listening ability and improving English listening teaching.

Teaching Assessment

In China, there is one famous saying that when a basket is being woven, the critical step is how to weave the mouth of the basket, the last step, which means that in teaching, assessment becomes the key step. No matter what methods and materials the teachers have ever used in their teaching, the key step is to make certain assessment to make sure what levels their students have reached. Sometimes,
teaching assessment may become students’ learning goal and teachers’ teaching goal. In such kind of assessment, some problems may be found, and some improvements would also be made later, teaching assessment should be proceeded even though it may bring about more extra work to teachers.

Summary
All in all, based on the features of the “Internet+” background, the suggestions or solutions for dealing with the English listening teaching are discussed. During the discussion, it is found that under the background of “internet+”, the innovation of English listening teaching can be reached only by the mixture of online and offline learning and teaching, the innovation of teaching methods and teaching contents and with teaching assessment as the key step.

References