

IMPROVING SPEAKING ABILITY IN DISCUSSION SESSIONS BY MANIPULATING THE INSTRUCTIONAL PODCAST CONTENT

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ABSTRACT

Most of the EFL learners faced problems delivering ideas to other people, especially in discussion sessions. They need guidance to fix their flaws. Instructional podcasts can be a valuable resource for enhancing speaking abilities, especially in conducting debate. By manipulating the content of the podcasts, educators can create engaging and interactive speaking activities that promote language production and fluency. Whether it is through guided discussion, interactive tasks, or role-playing activities, instructional podcasts provide students with the opportunity to practice their speaking skills in a meaningful and enjoyable way. By incorporating these strategies into language learning curricula, educators can empower students to become confident and proficient speakers. Through the exposure of some perspectives and the adaptation of a qualitative method for using podcast materials to enhance the students' success in discussion, it can be concluded that the students' abilities in delivering ideas are developed in discussion sessions. This kind of finding is beneficial for teachers teaching-related subjects. It also inspires other researchers to observe related topics.

Keywords: Discussion, Listening, Podcast, Speaking, Vocabulary.

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INTRODUCTION

Effective communication is a fundamental skill that plays a crucial role in our personal and professional lives. One aspect of communication that often goes overlooked is the ability to deliver ideas effectively. The manner in which we communicate our ideas can have a big impact on how others hear and understand them, whether we are at a business meeting, a classroom, or just having a casual discussion (Utkerovna, 2023). Speaking effectively requires a large vocabulary. It provides the framework for the development of our communication abilities. Having a rich and diverse vocabulary not only enhances our ability to express ourselves clearly, but it also enables us to convey our thoughts and ideas with precision and impact. It is necessary to explore the necessity of vocabulary in speaking and how it contributes to effective communication (Puspita *et al.*, 2023).

Authentic materials play a crucial role in improving speaking skills. By incorporating real-life resources such as newspapers, podcasts, and videos into language learning, students can develop their speaking abilities in a more practical and meaningful way. It is interesting to explore the benefits of using authentic materials and how they can effectively boost speaking skills. Contextual learning is facilitated for students through the use of authentic learning materials. It supports their independence in applying what they learn to practical situations. For them to be able to talk in context, they must apply the language they have acquired. In line with this, their fluency will be developed (Jiang and Chun, 2023).

Speaking skills are of utmost importance for EFL students. They not only facilitate effective communication but also contribute to overall language proficiency, build confidence, and promote intercultural understanding. However, EFL students have difficulties as they hone and improve their speaking abilities, particularly during debate practice. The majority of them struggled to appropriately communicate their objectives to others. They were unable to fully communicate their goal due to a few shortcomings. Their inadequate vocabulary, poor pronunciation, insufficient confidence, and poor sentence structure caused them to stammer when they tried to practice speaking. To address their shortcomings, they require assistance (Tsai, 2023).

Bhoko (2023) observed the effectiveness of using debate approaches to enhance speaking skills. To reach the success of such a goal, he invited senior high school students to join the treatment. Both qualitative and quantitative analyses were performed on the data gathered throughout the teaching-learning process. It was discovered that the students' development in presenting ideas increased when a discussion-based approach was used in speaking classes. The pupils were able to get over their speaking practice blocks. This indicates that the majority of pupils could use what they had learned about language acquisition to express themselves to others. Their ability to listen well will help them achieve this kind of accomplishment. It helps individuals comprehend what other people are saying when debating. This kind of ability also determines how they respond.

Podcasts are a great resource for improving public speaking skills. They give us the opportunity to practice speaking and listening in a genuine language, expose us to a range of subjects and ideas, and promote cultural awareness. Podcasts can help us become more confident communicators, increase our vocabulary, and enhance our speaking fluency when we are learning a language. Podcasts are a great teaching tool, especially for speaking classes. The way that native speakers use language to convey concepts can be taught to the students. It encourages students to apply their language skills in real-world situations. If they use the audio material to improve their speaking skills, they will be able to use the language naturally. They can mimic how native speakers spontaneously express their intentions (Amir *et al.*, 2023).

The study's objective is to determine how podcast content can improve students' speaking skills during class discussions. It's intriguing to provide evidence to support educators' efforts to help pupils become better communicators. In order to achieve this goal, guidance must be followed. Well, that's a research question. How might the information on the podcast help students become more confident presenters in front of the class? This study aims to investigate this research question. To obtain the desired outcomes, the response will trigger a qualitative analysis.

THE IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPING VOCABULARY SKILLS

Our everyday lives depend heavily on our vocabulary because it affects our ability to communicate, comprehend, and succeed in school and the

workplace in general. For people of all ages, building a large vocabulary is crucial since it improves language fluency and allows for the clear articulation of ideas and concepts. It is crucial to examine the benefits of increasing one's vocabulary and provide helpful advice for doing so. First off, having a large vocabulary improves communication abilities. Students can express their ideas and thoughts more clearly and effectively when they have access to a large vocabulary. They are able to communicate more effectively and comprehend others more fully as a result. Students that have a large vocabulary are better able to select the right words to use when communicating, which increases the impact and persuasiveness of their speech (Izzati *et al.*, 2024).

Furthermore, reading comprehension and vocabulary development are closely related. Their vocabulary grows as they read more, making it easier for them to comprehend materials that are difficult. A large vocabulary aids in their understanding of the subtleties of written content. Improving their ability to comprehend and think critically in general. Furthermore, having a large vocabulary enables children to interact with a greater variety of books, exposing them to a range of viewpoints and concepts. In both the professional and academic spheres, having a large vocabulary is highly desirable. It is frequently interpreted as a reflection of competence and intelligence (Matyakhan *et al.*, 2024).

People who have a large vocabulary will be better able to succeed in a variety of courses and fields. In academic contexts, having a large vocabulary makes it easier to comprehend difficult ideas and express them clearly in essays and presentations. In the workplace, having a large vocabulary improves one's capacity to produce engaging reports, make strong presentations, and participate in thought-provoking conversations. Gaining language proficiency is crucial for successful communication, understanding, and academic and professional outcomes. Students that have a large vocabulary are better able to communicate effectively, comprehend challenging literature, and perform well across the board. Through the application of useful techniques like reading a lot, maintaining a vocabulary notebook, and actively employing new terms, kids can consistently increase their vocabulary and profit from it in all facets of their lives. So let's start expanding our vocabulary and discovering the power of words (Suvonova, 2024). Students must have enough words in their minds to make the delivery process easier. They can use podcast content to increase this competency. Fig. 1 depicts it.

THE IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPING LISTENING SKILLS

One essential talent that is vital to our everyday existence is listening. In business, in the classroom, or in interpersonal situations, listening skillfully can significantly improve our ability to communicate with and comprehend others. Examining the value of listening skills development and their potential to improve many facets of our lives is crucial. First and foremost, mastering listening techniques is crucial for academic achievement. In the classroom, students who actively listen to their teachers are more likely to comprehend and retain information. Students can ask pertinent questions, participate in important conversations, and get a deeper understanding of the material by paying attention throughout lectures and discussions. As a result, they perform better academically and develop a deeper comprehension of the subject matter (Astirini *et al.*, 2024).

In addition, effective listening techniques are essential to the job. Employers place a great importance on workers who can actively listen

to instructions, criticism, and peer opinions. Employees may prevent misunderstandings, finish jobs precisely, and work well with others in their team by listening intently. Furthermore, active listening shows empathy and respect, both of which can foster a productive workplace and solidify business bonds. Developing listening skills is equally crucial in personal relationships. We demonstrate to people that we respect their ideas and emotions when we listen to them intently. This can build a supportive atmosphere, deepen our bonds with one another, and promote trust. By actively listening, we may better comprehend the viewpoints of others, settle disputes amicably, and forge closer bonds with the people we care about (Kartika and Hilintang, 2024).

Furthermore, improving our listening abilities might help us become more self-aware and improve personally. We can gain a better understanding of our own ideas, feelings, and needs by deliberately listening to ourselves. We may improve our general well-being, make wise judgments, and set significant goals thanks to this self-reflection. Hearing about the experiences and viewpoints of others might extend our perspectives, make us question our preconceptions, and encourage personal development. Still, though. Gaining effective listening skills is crucial for connections in the workplace, in school, and in personal life. We may increase communication, deepen our comprehension, and forge closer bonds with people when we actively listen to them. Gaining proficiency in listening can advance our sense of self and personal development. Consequently, in order to succeed in a variety of spheres of our lives, it is imperative that we give the development of listening skills top priority (Qobilovna, 2024). A high level of listening proficiency is necessary for the conversation to succeed. With the use of podcast resources, students who struggle with listening can be helped. As seen in Fig. 2.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRONUNCIATION SKILLS IN LANGUAGE LEARNING

When learning a language, pronunciation is really important. It is important to communicate and understand effectively, in addition to sounding like a native speaker. Investigating the value of pronunciation and methods for improving it is crucial. To begin with, speaking clearly improves communication. Using language, one should try to make oneself comprehensible to others. Inaccurate or incorrect pronunciation can cause uncertainty and misunderstandings. We can make sure that our message is received correctly and efficiently by honing our pronunciation. Pronunciation also affects listening comprehension. To understand the words and phrases being used when we listen to someone else speak a language, we rely on how they pronounce the words. It gets harder to understand what other people are saying if we pronounce things incorrectly ourselves. We can get better at listening to and comprehending native speakers if we can pronounce words correctly (Nadiyya and Suryadi, 2024).

Additionally, pronunciation affects our self-assurance when speaking a language. We could feel awkward and reluctant to talk when we have trouble pronouncing words correctly. This may impede our language acquisition and restrict our capacity for conversation. Strong pronunciation abilities can help us become more confident and at ease when speaking the target language. So how can we get better at pronouncing words correctly? First and foremost, it's crucial to mimic the pronunciation of native speakers by listening to them. This can be accomplished by watching TV series or movies, locating language exchange partners, or even by listening to podcasts. Furthermore, we can recognize and fix particular pronunciation mistakes with the aid of pronunciation exercises and apps (Farkhod and Dilrabo, 2024).

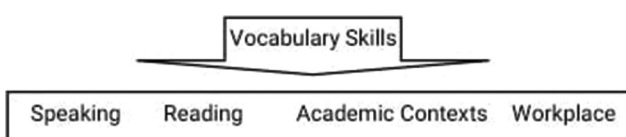


Fig. 1: Vocabulary

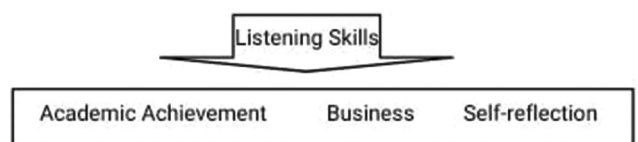


Fig. 2: Listening

Pronunciation abilities are nevertheless crucial for clear communication, comprehension of what is being heard, and general language acquisition. We can strengthen our language abilities and increase our confidence as speakers by concentrating on correcting our pronunciation. So let's accept the significance of pronunciation and work to make our abilities better so that we can learn languages effectively (Novawan *et al.*, 2024). To improve their speaking clarity, students need to work on their pronunciation. Through the use of podcast resources, students are able to improve their pronunciation. Fig. 3 illustrates it.

THE IMPORTANCE OF ENHANCING SPEAKING ABILITY

In the fast-paced, globally interconnected world of today, effective communication is an essential ability. Proficiency in clear and confident self-expression is essential in all contexts, be it personal, professional, or simply casual. As a result, improving speaking skills is crucial. Examining the advantages of enhancing speech abilities and offering helpful advice to make people better communicators are crucial. First of all, developing one's speaking skills can significantly increase one's confidence. We feel more confident in our abilities and ourselves when we can express our ideas and thoughts in a clear and concise manner. Our interactions with others reflect this confidence, which increases our ability to persuade and influence people. Speaking well may have a big impact on how people see us and how successful we are in reaching our objectives, whether it's at a presentation, a job interview, or a social event (Siahaan *et al.*, 2023).

Furthermore, we can improve our career possibilities by becoming more proficient speakers. Employers value good communication abilities in the competitive employment market of today. It is highly desirable to be able to communicate ideas clearly, participate in meaningful dialogues, and provide information in an engaging manner. We may differentiate ourselves from the crowd and improve our chances of advancing in our careers by improving our speaking abilities. Improving one's speaking skills might promote stronger interpersonal bonds. Any effective connection, whether it is with family, friends, or coworkers, is built on communication. Clear communication and active listening help us to prevent misunderstandings, settle disputes, and forge closer bonds with others. Building trust and being able to sympathize with others are further benefits of effective communication. We may build happier, more rewarding connections in all facets of our lives by honing our speaking abilities. There are various doable actions one can take to improve speaking abilities. Initially, practice is essential. Take part in public speaking events, have discussions with other individuals, or join a debate group. We shall grow more at ease and be assured the more public speaking engagements we take part in. Getting input from other people can also be quite beneficial. Seek out helpful feedback and make progress in the areas that require improvement. Lastly, use tools like books, webinars, or seminars to acquire ideas and tactics for successful communication (Handoko, 2023).

However, improving one's speaking skills is crucial for developing oneself, succeeding in the workplace, and creating enduring bonds with others. Enhancing our speaking abilities can help us become more self-assured, advance in our careers, and build stronger interpersonal relationships. We may easily negotiate the intricacies of the current world and become more proficient communicators by practicing, getting feedback, and using tools. Thus, let's embrace the process of improving our speaking skills and open the door to countless possibilities (Mahdi, 2024). Speaking is the way that thoughts are shared with other people. Students' capacity to talk more effectively is enhanced by using podcast resources. Fig. 4 depicts it.

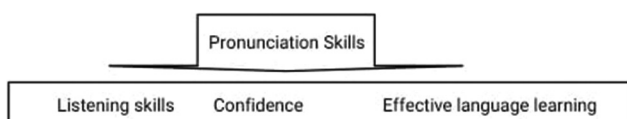


Fig. 3: Pronunciation

THE POWER OF PODCASTS: ENHANCING LISTENING SKILLS

It is more crucial than ever to have excellent communication skills in the fast-paced world of today. Among these abilities, listening is essential for comprehending and relating to other people. Still, a lot of students find it difficult to improve their listening abilities. Thankfully, podcasts have become a very effective technique for improving listening skills. This post will discuss the advantages of using podcast content to enhance listening comprehension as well as how educational environments might use it. First of all, a variety of real and interesting content may be found on podcasts. Podcasts offer an insight into real-world circumstances, in contrast to traditional listening exercises that frequently feel artificial and detached from the real world. They cover a wide range of subjects, including interviews, personal narratives, and news and current events. Podcasts let students learn a wider range of vocabulary, speech patterns, and accents, which contributes to a deeper comprehension of the English language. Podcasts also encourage attentive listening. Active listening demands concentrated attention and mental effort, in contrast to passive listening, which is when students only take in information without actively participating in it. Students are encouraged to actively process the content they hear through the use of interactive components included in podcasts, including conversations, quizzes, and follow-up exercises. This active participation develops critical thinking and problem-solving skills in addition to listening skills (Aprianto, 2024).

Moreover, podcasts are convenient and flexible. With the advent of digital technology, students can use their cellphones or other portable devices to access podcasts at any time and from any location. Because of its adaptability, students can use listening exercises in a variety of contexts, including their everyday commute, workouts, and relaxation. Students can consistently improve and form the habit of active listening by incorporating listening exercises into their daily lives. Podcasts also expose listeners to a variety of viewpoints and opinions. Empathy and cultural awareness are critical skills for kids to acquire in the globalized world of today. Podcasts provide a forum for a range of voices to be heard, giving students a better understanding of various cultures, viewpoints, and experiences. Their horizons are expanded, and it also helps them develop empathy and compassion for other people (Usmanalieva, 2024).

Still, podcasts have completely changed how we improve our listening abilities. Podcasts present a novel and successful method for enhancing listening skills by exposing students to a variety of voices, enabling flexibility, encouraging active listening, and delivering authentic content. It is imperative that we, as educators, accept this useful tool and incorporate it into our methods of instruction. By doing this, we may enable our children to develop into competent and self-assured listeners who have the abilities necessary to thrive in the connected world of today (Suseno, 2024). The development of listening skills is essential. It is possible to improve it with podcast content. It can be observed in Fig. 5.



Fig. 4: Speaking



Fig. 5: Podcast for listening

THE POWER OF PODCASTS IN ENHANCING PRONUNCIATION SKILLS

Podcasts have gained popularity in recent years, and it's important to recognize that they can improve pronunciation, in particular when it comes to language acquisition. A podcast may be a huge help when learning a language, especially in this day and age when technology is a big part of everything. It's important to examine how podcasts can improve pronunciation development and make the case for why they need to be a standard component of language instruction. First of all, podcasts give students' real-world, conversational language exposure. Podcasts provide real-life conversations, interviews, and discussions in contrast to traditional language learning materials, exposing students to a range of accents, intonations, and speech patterns. It enhances the development of suprasegmental skills. When learners imitate native speakers, exposure to real language aids in the development of a more accurate and natural pronunciation (Baxtiyorovna, 2024).

Additionally, podcasts present a special chance for students to hone their listening comprehension abilities, which are directly related to pronunciation. Regular podcast listening can help learners become more adept at differentiating between intonations, stress patterns, and sounds. This deeper understanding of pronunciation nuances can significantly benefit the development of exact pronunciation skills. Podcasts provide learners with a handy and adaptable learning environment. Because there are so many podcast platforms and a vast array of topics to choose from, students can select podcasts that complement their interests and learning objectives. Because podcast learning allows for personalization, students may interact with knowledge that matters and is relevant to them, which improves both the effectiveness and enjoyment of the learning experience. Podcasts provide a plethora of extra resources that can improve pronunciation even more. Transcripts are available for many podcasts, which students can use to follow along as they listen. Learners may be able to comprehend word and phrase pronunciation more easily with the aid of this combination of visual and auditory data (Dilbarkhon, 2024).

Furthermore, several podcasts include pronunciation exercises or advice, giving listeners targeted direction on enhancing their speaking abilities. It's crucial to remember that using podcasts to supplement standard language learning techniques rather than replace them is a good idea. Podcasts can help improve pronunciation a lot, but they should be used in addition to other language learning tasks like grammar drills, speaking practice, and vocabulary building. Podcasts have the power to completely transform how language learners develop their pronunciation. They are an invaluable resource for learners because of their real-world language input, chances for listening practice, adaptability, and other resources. Podcasts can be a useful tool for language learners to improve their pronunciation and create a more accurate and natural speaking style. Thus, why not harness the potential of podcasts to improve your pronunciation? (Yusupovna and Chermenovna, 2024). It is crucial to develop one's pronunciation. Podcasts include the resources to increase it. Fig. 6 illustrates it.

THE POWER OF PODCASTS: ENHANCING SPEAKING ABILITIES THROUGH MANIPULATION OF MATERIALS

With so much content and entertainment to offer listeners, podcasts have grown in popularity in recent years. But their advantages go beyond simple enjoyment. Through the manipulation of podcast content, people can greatly improve their speaking abilities. Investigating the numerous ways that podcast manipulation might enhance speaking



Fig. 6: Podcast for pronunciation

abilities is crucial. First of all, people can practice their pronunciation and intonation by manipulating podcasts. Learners can become more authentic and natural speakers by mimicking the speech patterns of native speakers they hear on podcasts. Furthermore, learners can improve their pronunciation by concentrating on particular sounds or sentences and adjusting the playback speed (Lucky, 2024).

Moreover, learners get access to a vast array of themes and terminology through podcast manipulation. People can increase their vocabulary and expertise by choosing podcasts that are relevant to their interests or fields of study. Speaking skills and overall language ability are both improved by this exposure to a variety of content. Manipulating podcasts can enhance listening comprehension abilities in addition to vocabulary growth. Learners can test their capacity to digest information faster by listening to podcasts at a faster pace. This will help them comprehend spoken language in discussions more rapidly (Mulyani, 2024).

In fact, podcast manipulation gives people a relaxed setting in which to practice speaking. Regular pauses in the podcast allow learners to practice speaking without worrying about being judged or interrupted while trying to summarize or discuss the material. Through practice, one can become more fluent and confident, better equipped to carry on real-world discussions. Manipulating podcasts provides a means of introspection and evaluation of oneself. Through the process of recording their own speech and comparing it to the original podcast, students are able to pinpoint areas in which they need to improve and monitor their advancement over time. The practice of self-evaluation is essential to ongoing development and progress. Podcast manipulation is a really effective way to improve your speaking skills. One can greatly enhance one's speaking abilities by honing pronunciation, increasing vocabulary, enhancing listening comprehension, and boosting self-esteem. Let's embrace the podcast industry and utilize it to the fullest extent possible to communicate (Hidayati et al., 2024). The use of podcast content can improve vocabulary development. Fig. 7 illustrates it.

USING PODCASTS TO ENHANCE DISCUSSION IN DEVELOPING SPEAKING FLUENCY

Podcasts have grown in popularity as a means of information exchange and deep dialogue in the current digital era. Podcasts can be a useful tool for improving discussion sessions in a variety of educational contexts because of their adaptability and accessibility. It's interesting to examine the benefits of using podcast content to improve classroom discussions and provide practical guidance on how to do it. Students get a rare opportunity to interact with real-world content and a variety of viewpoints through podcasts. Students can improve their critical thinking abilities and obtain a deeper comprehension of the material by subscribing to podcasts on pertinent subjects. With the ability to actively listen and consider the concepts being taught, the audio format makes for a more engaging learning environment for students. The opportunity to include expert voices and a range of opinions in discussion sessions is one of the main benefits of using podcast resources. Podcasts frequently include interviews with thought leaders, experts, and professionals in the sector, giving students insightful information from a variety of viewpoints. Students may be inspired to think critically about the subject at hand and to have animated debates as a result (Qizi and Ibragimjonovna, 2024).

Podcasts can also act as a stimulant for student involvement and engagement. Students can prepare their questions and thoughts for the pre-discussion by including podcast episodes in their homework. This encourages more lively and participatory conversations and gives

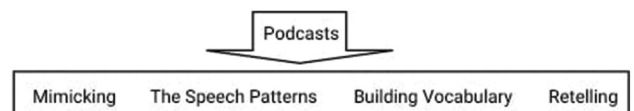


Fig. 7: Podcast for vocabulary



Fig. 8: Podcast for discussion

students the confidence to take charge of their education. Educators can take a few easy steps to integrate audio resources into discussion sessions. Start by choosing podcasts that complement the curriculum and learning goals. Seek out episodes that are thought-provoking, educational, and pertinent to the subject matter. Next, provide students with explicit instructions and questions to help them focus on the podcast throughout their listening sessions. Urge them to make notes, highlight important ideas, and create discussion questions. Establish a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere throughout the discussion period so that all students feel at ease expressing their ideas. To promote more in-depth thinking and meaningful dialogues, use open-ended questions. To further improve student participation and teamwork, think about implementing debates or small group discussions (Aprianto, 2024).

Students' learning experiences can be substantially improved by incorporating podcast content into discussion sessions. Podcasts may encourage critical thinking, participation, and deep conversations by exposing listeners to real-world content, a variety of viewpoints, and knowledgeable speakers. By carefully choosing pertinent episodes, laying out clear boundaries, and fostering an open conversation space, educators can make the most of podcasts. So why not join the podcast revolution and advance the conversations in your classroom? (Khalilova, 2024). Fig. 8 illustrates how podcast content can be used to improve discussion classes.

CONCLUSION

Sometimes, EFL students experience problems articulating their ideas. It made it difficult for them to have fruitful conversations among language users, particularly when they were debating something. However, altering the content of educational podcasts can be a useful strategy for enhancing students' ability to talk during class discussions. Teachers can establish a supportive learning environment that promotes active involvement and boosts students' confidence in expressing their ideas by combining actual language use, targeted language activities, and chances for reflection and debate. By using this method, students can improve their public speaking abilities, encourage critical thinking, and eventually become proficient communicators in both formal and informal learning environments.

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