The Impact of Electronic Books on Learning English Language in the Digital Era: An Overview

Zanyar Nathir GHAFAR*

*Information Technology department, Bright Technical and Vocational Institute, Sulaymaneah, Kurdistan Region, Iraq

*Corresponding author: zanyar.ghafar@btvi.edu.iq

Abstract

English is an essential skill that must be acquired. It is a globally understood language that facilitates communication between individuals from different countries. There are several methods to achieve proficiency in English; one of them is via reading literature. A textbook serves as both a tool and a means of acquiring knowledge. Reading is a fundamental ability. Interpretation is the cognitive ability or process of extracting meaning or understanding from written or spoken communication. Today, technology is advancing swiftly, making tasks more convenient than ever before. Individuals no longer need to actively pursue knowledge or be concerned about being in a secluded location devoid of libraries and bookshops. The data was readily accessible on our display, often at no expense, and presented in a numerical format. E-books, internationally recognized as digital publications, are texts presented in a digital format. Although they may include graphics and graphs to some extent, their forms mostly make them text-oriented. The findings of the study show several benefits to using electronic books, but there are also drawbacks associated with them. However, the process of learning involves acquiring knowledge and effectively using it. The origin of knowledge is boundless; it may arise from any source, at any moment, and include any subject matter.

Keywords: Electronic books, advancement, accreditation, encouragement, learning English

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Introduction

Is it possible to acquire knowledge without the use of educational materials? This issue has significant importance within an educational setting. The textbook is a crucial resource used as an instructional tool for learning. How can one achieve the purpose of learning when there is a lack of instructional textbooks? A textbook serves as both a tool and a learning resource. Despite being considered conventional and having been utilized for a significant period, textbooks nevertheless possess the ability to effectively enhance the learning process. Certain educational resources are dependent on the use of textbooks for effective instruction. The education industry is experiencing rapid growth and is highly responsive to changes in a nation's economic and social structure. In education, the use of innovation and technology is seen as essential and influential factors. Educational institutions have increasingly embraced e-books as a means of instruction and learning. The widespread use of electronic books has become prevalent in several educational settings throughout the globe. As a result of this progress, educators, institutions, and organizations have started devising strategic strategies to integrate electronic books into education.

In contemporary times, existence resembles the act of inverting one's palms. Technological advancement may assist in resolving any difficulties. Currently, the textbook is available for access. The majority of students express dissatisfaction with the burden of carrying textbooks in their luggage. Nowadays, textbooks may be conveniently obtained in the form of digital files known as electronic publications or electronic books. E-books were introduced in the early twenty-first century. This study will provide more elucidation on the utilization of e-books in the context of English language instruction.

Furthermore, besides the basic e-books, there exists a more intricate e-book that incorporates animation effects, music, photos, and several other multimedia components. Typically, this kind of electronic book has a greater dimension compared to e-books that just consist of text and graphics. An example of Microsoft's production is the Encarta Encyclopedia series. The review paper will provide more elucidation on the advantages that students get from studying using digital books.

Method

This work used literature analysis as a means to investigate the utilization of e-books in English Language Teaching (ELT). The advantages and disadvantages of using an electronic book were investigated to identify the most effective methods and approaches for using it. In the course of the conversation, a logical explanation is employed as the strategy.

Result

An Analysis of Online Education in English Language Teaching

There are several methods for teaching the English language. Electronic learning, sometimes known as e-learning, is an educational innovation that enables individuals to acquire knowledge and skills via the use of electronic devices or media. This includes the acquisition of the English language. E-learning is an alternative term for electronic learning. The field of technology for communication and information has seen significant advancements during the last decade. It has an impact on the implementation of teaching methods in schools, particularly the instruction of the English language. The use of this approach presents a chance for educators to enhance pupils' academic performance.

When it comes to the efficacy of learning, e-learning should be capable of offering individualized experiences and comparable benefits in terms of enjoyment and learning performance.
management as conventional face-to-face classroom instruction (Arbaugh, 2005; Bolliger & Wasilik, 2009). To maintain connection, both instructors and students need internet facilities while using e-learning. The viability of a distant education system is contingent upon the proficiency and quality of these exchanges. Web-based remote education functions as a virtual community that facilitates interaction among both students and professors, as well as among students themselves.

The primary challenge of this lesson is in the difficulty of transferring the teacher’s classroom-based practices to a virtual setting that encompasses several elements. The presence of this system necessitates a shift in the mindset of both instructors and students. The distinct traits of teachers in their teaching approach are not discernible in this technique. This approach should moreover possess the capability to provide educational material to pupils. The report must be consistently available and regularly updated at all times. Essential information often includes the syllabus, course schedule, announcements, participant details, topic content, and evaluation of student learning outcomes (Sulisworo, Sulistiyo & Akhsan, 2017). E-learning is a technologically driven education method that is offered individually and incorporates a diverse range of learning methodologies.

The methods mentioned are Sulisworo, Yunita, and Komalasari (2017). Howard & Scott (2017) delineated the distinctions between traditional learning and electronic learning. Conventional education employs chalk and a board as instructional tools, with the instructor being the exclusive source of information delivery. The learning environment is confined to the classroom and offers restricted options for learning. While e-learning utilizes contemporary technology, the educational material disseminated through electronic devices encompasses a spectrum of learning environments, ranging from incorporating technology in the classroom to utilizing computers with teachers and independently using laptops. This affords learners a multitude of learning options (Howard & Scott, 2017).

E-learning, which utilizes information and communications technology, enables a wide range of educational activities. These activities include facilitated learning, blended learning (a combination of traditional and e-learning methods), and fully online education. Regardless of the technology used, knowledge remains the essential component. Using e-learning in English language instruction offers significant benefits. The integration of computers and other technology has become an essential component of both learning and education. Currently, e-learning plays a crucial role in several sectors, including language instruction. The advent of e-learning has revolutionized several tactics and ideas in education, empowering the teaching community to enhance their performance.

An Overview of the Concept of Electronic Books

Can we study without textbooks? This issue has significant importance within an educational setting. The textbook is a crucial tool used as an instructional guide in the process of learning. How can one get the essence of learning in the absence of textbooks as a source of direction? A textbook serves as both a tool and a means of acquiring knowledge. Despite being commonplace and long-standing, textbooks remain very effective tools for facilitating learning. Certain educational resources require the assistance of instructional manuals to be effectively taught. The education industry is experiencing rapid growth and is highly responsive to changes in a nation's economic and social structure. In education, the use of technological advances and innovation is seen as essential and influential factors. Educational institutions have increasingly embraced e-books as a means of instruction and learning (Wu & Chen, 2018; Korat & Falk, 2017). Electronic books have been widely used in many educational activities around the globe. In response to this trend, teachers, organisations, as well as organisations have been working on strategic strategies to use electronic books in education.

In contemporary times, existence resembles the act of inverting one's palms. Technological advancement may assist in resolving any difficulties. Currently, the textbook is available for access. The majority of students express dissatisfaction with the burden of carrying textbooks in their luggage. Nowadays, textbooks may be obtained in the form of digital files
known as electronic texts or electronic books. E-books originated in the early 20th century. E-books have been easily accessible since the early 1970s. The whole situation has undergone a significant transformation. Nevertheless, the rate of technological advancement is fast accelerating. E-learning facilitates the learning process. Consequently, it is imperative that books may be sent via internet technology and accessed by a computer or other electronic device, thereby referred to as e-books or electronic books. E-texts are synonymous with e-books. Michael Stern Hart, an American writer, is renowned for being the pioneer of electronic books (e-books) and the originator of Project Gutenberg (PG), a significant project in this field.

Initial endeavor aimed at creating e-books that are readily accessible on the internet without any cost. Hart dedicated his life to the digitization and distribution of literature from works in the public domain that are free and expired copyright. He started this endeavor in 1971 with the establishment of PG (Bozkurt, Okur & Karadeniz, 2016). E-books, also known as e-texts, are first created in plain text format and distributed as text files. However, other forms may be made accessible at a later time. Hart authored the majority of his first e-book, and after then a portion of individuals made it public. It is almost 47 years old. The library has been continuously advancing in its efforts to provide access to e-books, whether via an e-library service for online viewing or by enabling downloads to a device. This life is very short in comparison to the print book that has existed for five centuries.

In addition, the internet was launched in 1974 with the development of the TCP/IP protocol by Vinton Cerf and Bob Kahn. The expansion started in 1983 as a network of research centers and institutions. The development of the Internet was first propelled by the creation of the World Wide Web by Tim Berners-Lee in 1990, and further accelerated by the introduction of the first web browser, Mosaic, in 1993. The internet rapidly expanded globally starting in 1994 (Lambert, 2009). While some e-books are presented in a simple format, other more intricate e-books include animation effects and audio. Visuals, such as pictures and videos, as well as other interactive components. Typically, this kind of e-book has a greater dimension compared to e-books that just include text and images. One instance is the Encarta Encyclopaedia series. Regarding the production of Microsoft. The presentation will provide more elucidation on the advantages that students get from studying using e-books. An e-book is a digital rendition of a book or text that is made available on the internet or in other electronic media.

The gadget often referred to as an e-book or e-reader is an electronic device used for reading books. An e-book is a digital rendition of a book that was first published in print or developed directly in a digital format. It can identify many companies worldwide that develop these gadgets (Labert, 2009).

An e-book is a digital version of a printed book that can be read on a personal computer or an e-book reader. An e-book reader refers to a software program that may be used over a network, such as Microsoft’s complimentary Reader application. A compact computing device designed only for reading purposes, with dimensions similar to those of a book. Readers have the option to buy e-books in the form of diskettes or CDs, however, the most often used way to acquire e-books is by purchasing them. An electronic file that may be obtained from a website and saved onto a computer or reading device for reading. To be straightforward, e-books may be downloaded in a time frame of five minutes or less (Rouse, 2017).

However, reader applications or devices are not required to read e-books since most books can be accessed as PDF files. Despite this, e-books are widely favored because they offer features comparable to printed books, such as the ability to bookmark pages, make annotations, highlight passages, and save selected text. Furthermore, e-book readers provide the added features of dictionaries and customizable font sizes and styles. A handheld e-book reader weighs between twenty-two ounces and three or four pounds and can store anything from four thousand to over half a million pages of text and images. The word "e-books" refers to publications that are available in electronic format, where the digital text is transformed and may be viewed on e-
reader devices. According to Woodward (2014), e-books can contribute to three main strategic priorities that are important for most universities. These priorities include improving the student knowledge and academic achievements in a highly competitive environment, promoting innovation in learning, teaching, and research, and optimising the utilization of physical space and human resources.

**Comparison between electronic books and Traditional Books**

The prevalence of e-books is steadily increasing. The e-book is a technological advancement of traditional printed books that were formerly read daily. It provides several advantages that facilitate the acquisition of information and understanding. E-books are digital publications that may be conveniently kept on our electronic devices. The use of portable electronic devices for downloading e-book databases offers better convenience and efficiency compared to traditional printed books. According to Rebora (2013), e-book companies are making an effort to make their products resemble printed books in appearance and functionality. However, attempts to include advanced interactive features in digital books have not been successful. Vassiliou & Rowley (2008) suggest that e-books are a digital medium that contains textual and other material. This medium is created by merging the traditional idea of a book with intriguing characteristics that may occur in a digital context. An e-book often includes useful features such as search and cross-reference functionality, hypertext connections, and bookmarks.

**Features include notes, highlights, multimedia items, and interactive tools.**

Although printed books are not as complex as e-books, many benefits are pleasurable in the published paper. Indeed, there continues to be a significant market for printed books. Printed bookstores continue to be commonly frequented. The written book may be comprehended without the need for specialized equipment or a specific understanding of a gadget, which is the reason for its enduring significance in the present day. Similarly, the present cohort of young individuals, known as digital natives, who are expected to have no inherent preference for traditional books, consistently express in various surveys that they favour acquiring knowledge from printed materials rather than electronic screens. Many of them even state that if they come across an important text online, they are inclined to print it out before engaging in thorough reading (Jabr, 2013). Just like print books, e-books come in many categories and types, which continue to expand as technology advances. The breadth of e-books ranges from digitized versions of printed books to formats resembling databases (Minčić-Obrovčić, 2011). Tedd (2005) states that academic libraries often buy several sorts of e-books, such as educational materials, multimedia books, reference works, directories, and digitized copies of out-of-print publications.

**The benefits of using electronic books**

In modern times, the majority of individuals own electronic devices, and a portion of them choose to carry these devices rather than physical books. Transporting books for reading might be somewhat burdensome. E-books enhance the practicality and accessibility of reading. (Alhammad & Ku, 2016). The advent of electronic books such as Kindle, Nook, iPad, and other similar devices has significantly increased the utilization of e-books. Obtaining an electronic book is a very simple task since it can be easily downloaded. Certain e-books are available at no cost, while others need payment. Most individuals are willing to pay for electronic books due to their much lower cost than printed books. Additionally, they like the ease of carrying and storing several books on a single reading device and the accessibility of having a vast library readily available. By using e-books, students may effectively do word or phrase searches with a simple tap on the screen. Additionally, many e-readers have the functionality to highlight text and take notes. E-books also exhibit more efficient updates compared to conventional print textbooks,
which need to be republished, e-books may become more ecologically sustainable. Advancements in technology have led to the improvement of e-readers and e-books. Additionally, these devices now have the ability to link to instructional websites.

Online platforms that facilitate student involvement, cooperation, and interest (Liaw & Huang, 2016). Students may find e-books more accessible than professors, given the majority of students have grown up in the digital era and engage with technology daily. The majority of students own a mobile device, and the majority of these devices are equipped with internet connectivity. Students are used to accessing the internet via social networking platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and other similar websites. Implementing a policy where students are required to pay a nominal charge for course materials, which would include any e-book chosen by the teacher, would be beneficial for publishers, institutions, and students.

This platform would guarantee the protection of the publisher's e-book against unauthorized duplication, while also preventing the institution from being burdened with unused, unpurchased paper textbooks. This requirement would allow the school to purchase e-books in large quantities, and students would be able to get the necessary e-books for their courses by paying a nominal charge. For students desiring a physical printout to resolve the issue with the textbook, one possible approach would be to print off the specific portion that is required physically. Undoubtedly, purchasing a textbook with traditional cultural value is an option, but, it is important to take into account factors such as cost, convenience, and technological advancements.

According to Young (2010), e-books seem to have the upper hand in the future. Faculty members may get advantages from e-books by customizing them to suit their courses. This customization may include including lecture notes, practice exams, and connections to pertinent websites, enhancing the course content (Alkadi & Johnson, 2009). Numerous academic institutions have harnessed the benefits of technology in the realm of online courses. The integration of e-books serves as a convenient transition from conventional printed textbooks, or at the least, a partial adoption of e-books to facilitate the transition. An essential rationale for integrating e-books is the unavoidable shift towards a more technologically oriented educational setting. Remaining open-minded and continuously acquiring technology knowledge can ensure that higher education institutions, professors, and students stay up-to-date with new advancements. Our goal is to continuously update and enhance our technologies to ensure they stay at the forefront in this technology-driven era.

To summarize, the benefits of utilizing Electronic books may be stated as follows:

1. Intriguing characteristics. The features of e-books may have a significant impact on children's reading abilities, particularly via the ability to adjust font size, use text-to-speech tools, access dictionaries, enable automated page flipping, and interact with animation hotspots. This implies that the characteristics of e-books are more comprehensive and captivating. The e-book can enhance the reader's motivation via its distinctive characteristics (Jones & Brown, 2011; Larson, 2010; Vaala & Takeuchi, 2012).

2. Easily transportable. The e-book is very portable and may be conveniently accessed at any location and time. The e-book is very portable since it just requires finding a comfortable location to begin reading. Locating the desired subject of an e-book is a quick process (Liaw & Huang, 2016; Jones & Brown, 2011).

3. Dim illumination. Essential devices are required for accessing the e-book. By using the device, there is no longer a need for external lighting since the gadget itself provides its light. According to Vaala and Takeuchi (2012), it is possible to read an e-book on a device in a low-light environment, even in complete darkness.
4. Preserve the planet. E-books vary from traditional books. An e-book is a digital publication that can be viewed via electronic devices such as gadgets or computers. Books are composed of many sheets of paper that are printed with ink. The increased use of e-books leads to a reduction in deforestation. E-books have the potential to decrease the use of paper and ink (Vaala & Takeuchi, 2012).

The drawbacks of electronic books

E-books, often known as electronic books, have been empirically shown to possess several benefits in comparison to traditional textbooks. However, according to Nicholas and Lewis (2010), e-books also have some drawbacks.

The entities in question are as follows:

1. The gadget. The gadget facilitates all tasks and is very functional. However, the device’s battery life is restricted and requires regular charging. In a separate instance, the cost of the innovation exceeds that of the printed book.

2. Online connectivity. An internet connection is required to access the e-book. Occasionally, the reader may encounter technical difficulties, resulting in the user being unable to view the e-book. Internet connectivity is not consistently accessible in rural regions.

3. Ocular fatigue. Reading e-books exclusively on electronic devices may have a detrimental effect on the readers’ eyes, especially when done for extended periods. A significant number of readers experience ocular fatigue after the perusal of electronic books.

4. Reluctance to adapt. Amidst the contemporary period, several novel technologies and gadgets have been invented. While some individuals may experiment with it due to its novelty, others refrain from altering their fundamental behaviour. Similarly, to e-books, some individuals experiment with them, while others continue to find solace in traditional printed books.

5. Weaknesses in security measures. The e-book is susceptible to the virus, which may result in the loss of the file. Security measures are required to safeguard e-book files. There are some security programmes that are not available for free.

Conclusion

E-learning enhances learning, training, or educational programs using electronic methods. E-learning necessitates the use of a computer or electronic device, such as a mobile phone, to provide instructional, educational, or learning content. The e-book is an innovative tool used in e-learning. The e-books are intended for users who utilize electronic media or e-book devices, such as computers or mobile phones, to read them. The advent of e-book readers allows for easy access to favorite books without the need for physical copies. Additionally, it provides a convenient platform for authors to distribute their work, eliminating the need to go via publishers for publication. If an author wants to market or disseminate their written work via an e-book, this serves as a convenient method that also extends to readers or anyone seeking information on the internet. Similar to many instructional documents or papers that may not be classified as books, there are materials known as flyers, brochures, pamphlets, and other similar forms. For a file document to be classified as an e-book, it must adhere to the conventions of book writing and be structured in a book-like format, without being physically printed. E-books, in the form of expanded PDF (Portable Document Format), are electronic books that can be accessed using PDF reader software such as Adobe Acrobat Reader, Foxit Reader, and similar programs. The PDF format is often used for e-books due to its practicality and ease of control during production. Document Word may be converted into PDF format using Adobe Acrobat or other software applications. The benefits of this PDF file include its compact file size, which may be further
optimized for embedded graphics. It is also user-friendly for reading and printing. Additionally, it has a setting feature that allows the use of a password for reading, editing, or printing. In the field of English language instruction, instructors may find e-books to be a useful resource. Nevertheless, printed books will always remain in memory as a crucial element in the process of education and acquiring knowledge. An e-book is a digital version of a published book. E-books provide students with more opportunities to acquire knowledge and information from the World Wide Web, which may not be accessible in traditional books. Nevertheless, the significance of both e-book and published books is the same. It serves as a directive for acquiring knowledge on a certain subject.

Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest

References:


