

Tech-Book or Textbook? The Impact of the Mechanization of the English Language Textbook for Young Learners in Sri Lanka

Sammani Yashodhara Rajapaksha

Department of English Language Teaching, University of Kelaniya

<sammani.rajapaksha5@gmail.com>

Abstract - This research explores the effectiveness of incorporating technology into young learner textbooks in Sri Lanka. Technology incorporation in education is a popular phenomenon all over the world. However, in Sri Lanka, there are limited researches done in this area of study. Therefore, this focuses on young learners in Sri Lanka and how effective it would be to incorporate technology in their English language education. The study was conducted using mixed-method with the experimental approach. Young learners from a government mixed school were taken as the sample of the study. Two classrooms were taken and divided as the experiment and controlled group. Both the groups were given a pre-test at the beginning of the study. The participants from the experimental group were taught lessons from English textbook by incorporating technology while the controlled group learned the same lessons with conventional methods. Later both the groups were given a post-test to measure the effectiveness. Apart from the tests, focused group interviews with the experimental group and a semi-structured interview with the English teacher were conducted to find out their perception towards this new teaching/learning approach. The researcher was an observer throughout the whole research. The results from the tests, interviews, and observations indicated that the technology incorporation in young learner English textbook is effective in many ways. However, there are few limitations in incorporating technology in textbook because of the lack of computer literacy of teachers and the lack of facilities of the schools in Sri Lanka.

Keywords: Technology, Young Learners, English Language Education