



Influence of YouTube in learning English as a Second language

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This research paper analyzes whether YouTube has an influence on students' learning English as a second language in Sri Lanka. English being a key to entering the global village, this study will further educate the students about the role of YouTube in learning English as a second language. In order to answer this problem, a study was conducted with the participation of students who are candidates for the upcoming G.C.E. Advanced Level examination to receive more candid information from a suburb of Colombo District. Questionnaires were provided to the participants in line with the analysis of the study. As for the results, almost the whole population who were selected as representatives from their generation agreed with the fact that YouTube would be a student-friendly digital media to utilize as a helping hand in learning English as a second language. A scope of young scholars on the matter of learning English as a second language and modernizing traditional ESL classrooms with the use of YouTube in teaching English as a second language is subjected to evaluation in this report. With the results of this study revealing that the younger generation would show higher interest in utilizing YouTube in learning English as a second language, it was further discussed how the current methodologies of learning ESL could not be replaced, but it is fundamental to associate YouTube with the methodologies already followed. The implications of this study could be further used to promote the use of YouTube for learning English. As for the findings of the research, key advantages such as easy accessibility and convenience in using YouTube as a learning tool can be identified. Through engagement with the videos and audios presented on the digital platform, it enables the user to access real-world language practices and further encourages them to interact with the global community through facilities like the comment section. In addition to the pros focused on in the study, during the interviewing process of the participants, it was clearly mentioned that the reliability of content and distractions while using the platform could be considered cons in this process. However, as a conclusion of the study, it can be mentioned that YouTube can be a valuable supplementary learning tool for learning English as a second language through its availability of content selection, structured language learning methods, and its operational language being English, which facilitates the user to put their language knowledge into practice and master it too as a second language among young individuals.

Keywords: New Trends of Learning, Self-learning, Online Education, Digital Learning, Learning Resources

