

**A Research Article on
USE OF MULTIMEDIA MOBILE PHONE AS A TOOL FOR LEARNING ENGLISH
AS A SECOND LANGUAGE**

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ABSTRACT:

Communication through Mobile phone has reached to its hike in present era. It has become a heart of development and progress in each sector proving its title. It has transformed the world into a global village. Now that we are thinking of it from the learning a 'second language' perspective, mobile phone has made it very user-friendly for everyone travelling around the world. The technology is changing day by day. We can see the development in the mobile phone technology too from just a phone into a multimedia equipped device! We have now a complete world in our palm in the form of android mobile phone. Basic knowledge of its functions is enough to utilize the device. Similarly, right guidance and its path can lead to perfection in learning a second language. Phones are very uncomfortable to carry everywhere. In addition to it a multimedia equipped phone functions same as a computer or laptop. It can transfer and receive files, images, videos, charts, graphs etc. and we can edit or prepare a nice presentation with the help of all this. This means while operating such functions in the phone one can practice the second language. The present paper highlights how a Multimedia equipped phone can be used as a language learning tool; how is it user friendly; how can one be convenient with its possession and so on. This paper may prove to be very helpful to all those who are doing research in language or a translator who is trying to share any information from a book of particular language into another language. But it is also necessary that the learner of second language must have good knowledge of one's own regional language or mothertongue.



Objectives:

- To introduce learners with use of mobile phone to learn English as a Second language
- To introduce learners various language learning applications and their functions
- To reinforce learners for learning English as a second language

INTRODUCTION:

There is a revolutionary change in the digital technology. It has reached in every nook and corner of the world. It has become very easy for everyone to be in touch with each other though they are living thousand miles away. Its quickness has brought all closer than before. The world has become very rapid and it has become a perfect device to cope up with the time. There were days when phone was just a medium of (audio) communication. For watching videos there were only TV and cinema theatres; for photo one has to go to the photo studio or photographer used to call; listening audio songs was only possible through cassettes; we had to sit beside radio for entertainment from it; transferring files like photo, documents was possible only when they are printed and shared; for audio or video recording special tape-recorder and camera was needed; sending messages was only possible through letters, telegrams and learning a second language was not quite possible without a teacher.

But when the simple phone became cordless, messages came in pagers, then came basic version of black-white display mobiles; then colour screen mobiles with radio; then with photo camera; it followed by video shooting; then radio, internet, sharing photos, audios, videos, messages, documents via Bluetooth, and sharing applications for android mobile phones such as Xender, Shareit, Zappy etc. Now it also is equipped with special application for learning a language with its disctionary having meanings in many languages. All these features are very helpful for the one who wish to learn a second langauge. Mobile phone having internet facility has opened doors around the world for the learners possessing it. One can learn English through audio, video, apps and documents etc. available on websites or playstore! Multimedia equipped phone is a ready device to learn English as one can record, shoot, write, send and receive messages and information, can store information into it to use anytime, anywhere. The present article

highlights the usage of mobile phone for its user who wants to learn English language as a second language. We will try to know the process how to install app in our mobile and then will try how to learn four language skill i.e. listening, reading, writing and speaking. But the learner practicing by the app must know some basic English.

➤ **How could one reach to the app:**

We have to connect our phone to the internet. Then we have to install the google playstore application first. After that by clicking on its icon, we will have options like Apps & Games and Movies, Music, Books. Besides there will be a search bar in which we have to type name of the app if we already know, otherwise just type as *English Learning*, *English Speaking*, *English Listening* and so on. After that there will be number of applications with different name of various companies. When we click on any of the apps in the list e.g. Let's Learn English it will ask your permission to download first. Once you download it we have to install the app. You will observe that the tab **Install** has now turned into **Open** option.

➤ **Listening Practice of English:**

We all teachers of language know very well that this is the first and foremost skill of learning any language. A child learns language by listening it by the people speaking around. There are number of applications on playstore for listening practice such as English Listening and Speaking, Study English With Audio and so on. Let's take the example of English Listening and Speaking app. Once we install the app and open it we will find some round tabs in it. They are easy short stories, intermediate short stories, task for wrting practice, inter-advanced essays, conversations, sentences, vocabulary, verbs with sounds, English names with sounds, daily expression, English pronunciations, tests and games and some more activities too. When we choose short stories for listening, there are 150+ stories for listening practice in the app. Now we can check other apps on playstore for better practice.

➤ **Speaking Practice of English:**

Speaking is next to listening practice in any language. Hence, we have to follow the same method to download and install the app and plunge into it to swim in the pool of speaking language. There are again many applications on playstore like English Speaking Course, Speak English in 30 Days and so on. But any app doesnt give only

one practice for learning language. It come along with almost all practices necessary to learn a language. Now the app e.g. English Speaking Course we find four tabs in it. Chapter, English Grammar, Enligh Vocabulary and English Conversation. There are 19 chapters giving practice about parts of speech. Grammar tab takes you into tenses, synonym and antonym practice, practice of English idioms is also there. Vocabulary is amazing in it starting with fruits and dry fruits, colours, cereals, eatables, time, homes, spices, etc. Then there are number of conversational pieces or chunks too.

➤ **Practice of Reading English:**

As we saw above any app doesn't teach any linguistic skill in isolation but along with other skills practices too. Now speaking enligsh in itself is a learning reading. In the app above English Speaking Course, have conversational practice that have to be read first. These are given in the call out form. It has an icon of speaker. We have to click and download it first. Then we will come to know how the read sentence in the chunk is spoken or read as well. Here is an example of a chunk:

My Kitchen is a Mess	
A:	Ugh, my kitchen is such a mess. But I'm feeling so lazy. Can you please help me clean?
B:	Well yes, I can do that, but my rate is 30 dollars an hour. Can you afford that?
A:	What about a friends rate?
B:	Well I can give you 1% discount because you cooked for me.
A:	Gee thanks.
B:	Haha I;m just kiddking. Of course I would help you. You made a wonderful pizza for us both. Thank you.
A:	No problem. Thanks for helping me clean.

➤ **Practice of Writing English:**

Now this is the second-last skill of learning a language. There are various tests and Games in the application. One of my favourite game in English Speaking Course app is WORD CHAIN. Here one letter is given to us and we have to form a word of more than three letters beginning by the last alphabet of the given word by CPU. Once you start playing it the chain goes on endlessly unless you stop to play. At the top of the

screen of mobile it shows the score of CPU and for our score YOU. When stop playing game, it gives your score which is a kind of reinforcement that we give the students in our language classroom. Though typing is different than writing, it at least gives practice to type alphabets as we do in writing.

➤ **Practice of Conversation or Communication in English:**

Learning second or any language doesn't stop at writing skill but it also has an important skill that has to be acquired by practice for learner and it is communication. Generally English Speaking applications provide this practice of conversation by giving chunks or dialogues and anecdotes. Now a learner has to form a group or pair that is interested in learning language or can record one's own voice in the mobile phone to check proper pronunciation, tone, intonation, fluency and accuracy. Thus, a mobile phone using in such a way will prove to be a boon for a learner English as a second language.

➤ **Some Application for Learning English Language:**

Quiz your English	English Speaking Course	Speak English in 30 Days
Hello English: Learn English	English Conversation Practise	English Speaking tips
English Speaking Vocabulary	English Speaking Course	How to Speak Real English
English speaking course 28 days	English Speaking Course (App)	Learn English Listening
English Speaking Course 7 Days	Daily English Conversation	English speaking course – 51 hr
Learn English with Hindi	Speak English in 30 Days	English Speaking Course – Hindi
Learn English from Hindi	Learn to Speak English	Learn English with Duolingo
English Listening and Speaking	Learn English (Marathi)	Study English with Audio
English Speaking App Offline	English Grammar Sikhe	Speak English
Speak English basic	English Speaking Course	Speak English Fluently
English Speaking Course – Hindi	Learn English Speaking	Learn English Step by Step
English speaking practice	Learn English. Speak English	English to Hindi Translator

English Hindi Dictionary	Learn English Speaking	Talking English
Maje Maje me English sikhe	Speak English using Tamil	English Conversation Courses
ENGLISH Talk stranger speaking	Learn English with Videos	Hindi English Translator
English Speaking	Speak English (Marathi)	Telugu to English Speaking
English Speaking Basics	English Speaking Course	English Hindi Dictionary
Malayalam to English Speaking	Speak English Daily	Angreji sikhe – 30 din me
Learn English in Hindi 30 Days	English Grammar Test	English Grammar Book
EMILLY – Spoken English	Kannada to English Speaking	Learn English speaking Course
English Speaking Course	#1 Vocabulary Builder App	English Bolna Sikhe:35 Days
english Speaking Buddy	American English Speaking	Punjabi to English Speaking
English Speaking Apps	English Speaking Course	Andy- English Speaking Bot
The list is continued on playstore...		

Conclusion:

In the age of digital technology, everything has gone very quick. One cannot retreat from it. Rather it has become very rapid with advanced materials used for acquiring knowledge. There is no limit for resources to get knowledge in any area of interest. One should have great aspiration to go through with a genuine zeal and enthusiasm and keep aloof from the blunder of misuse, misguide and misleading by the technology. Advance technology has brought us many modern facilities, progress and development. At the time of James Wyatt, Graham Bell, Newton etc. there were no such physical facilities and advanced resources. But they were unstoppable until they were succeeded in their field. Now that we have more resources, facilities and dazzling development, we can make our own world worth to live in using our inborn talent.



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