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MODERN TRENDS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

As is known, foreign language knowledge is an essential component of interpersonal communication, necessary for successful international and intercultural contacts. English language teaching is constantly evolving and developing and remains very ambitious and **relevant** task due to advances in technology. Since digital technologies have taken a hold in society, it is important to make sure that the technologies that we have available are used effectively [2, p. 7].

Therefore, the **aim** of this paper is to outline the main innovations in ELT that can help improve learners' language knowledge.

When it comes to innovations, we often think of the internet services which provide safe online environment for teaching and learning. Among the most popular nowadays are such social networks as Facebook or cloud-based tools like Google Docs which are gaining popularity now. The growth of the internet and social media allowed teachers of English from all over the world to form online communities that act like a huge global staffroom [1].

One of the most efficient ways to invite visitors into classrooms is Video conferencing which enables learners to collaborate with each other at distance via Skype, iChat and FaceTime or Flash Meeting and similar tools. In certain situations this can be one of the few methods available for exposing learners to native English speakers and for facilitating cultural exchanges [2, p.25]. It is stated that Video conferencing can also bring specialist English teachers into classrooms for direct teaching as well as modelling good practice for the mainstream teacher. Teachers themselves can also link up using the technology for more in-depth teacher training sessions [2, p.25].

The growth of quantity and quality of information on the internet made learning to move gradually from a teacher-centred top-down approach to a student-centred, bottom-up one over the last years [1]. Thus, the teacher has become a consultant, guide, coach, and/or facilitator, rather than a knowledge-transmitter, which will help students to think and reflect and

enable teachers and learners to make any innovation work according to our needs.

List of references

1. Chong Ch. S. Ten innovations that have changed English language teaching [Electronic resource] / Chia Suan Chong. – 2016. — Access mode : <https://www.britishcouncil.org/voices-magazine/ten-innovations-have-changed-english-language-teaching>
2. Motteram G. Innovations in learning technologies for English language teaching / Gary Motteram. — British Council, London: The British Council, 2013. — 197p.