

The Positive and Negative Aspects of Photo Searching Applications: From the Perspective of Senior High School Students

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ABSTRACT

With the expansion of the controversy on the function of photo searching applications on the Internet and the continuous implementation of the “Shuang Jian” policy issued by the Chinese government, whether the photo searching apps should continue to be used has become a topic of general concern recently. Photo searching applications are convenient, exploitable, interactive, and real-time, so users can get answers the first time. Photo searching applications not only have a large number of question databases and accurate problem-solving ideas, but also the online function that famous teachers can help people to solve questions. Although it has many advantages, its use is still questioned by many people, because some students make mistakes in using search software such as copying answers. This study comprehensively uses a qualitative research method to analyze the quality of photo searching applications, which will promote the richness and perfection of the cognition of photo searching apps. In addition, this study took high school students as the research object. The author set up an online questionnaire and invited approximately 63 Chinese high school students to do this questionnaire. In this case, the questionnaire and survey can objectively study the positive side and the negative side of the photo searching apps to intuitively get the evaluation of Chinese high school students from the perspective of high school students. It will be a great opportunity to maximize the efficiency of using photo searching apps. Most students use photo searching applications, but less than half use it frequently. It can be safely concluded that most of them think these applications are helpful, and photo searching applications play an indispensable role in most Chinese students' daily study life. However, students did not rely too much on these applications.

Keywords: *Online Learning, “ShuangJian” policy, Photo Searching Applications, Senior High School*

1. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the sudden emergence of photo searching applications has set off a craze among students. For many families, homework can be a problem because parents have limited knowledge and time. What's more, teachers do not have enough time to take full care of each student due to the widespread "large-class education" in China. Photo searching applications can solve these problems to some extent. They have a large variety of teaching materials and question databases, most of the answers are detailed analyses, and some famous teachers can answer questions online at any time. Despite this, the software has fallen into a negative public opinion due to the

incorrect use of some students. Some parents are increasingly skeptical about the functions of these applications. In 2021, the Chinese government introduced the “Shuang Jian” policy. It is said that online training institutions shall not provide or disseminate bad learning methods, such as "taking photos and searching questions", which idle students' thinking ability, affect students' independent thinking, and violate the laws of education and teaching. Students' opposition to the policy increased dramatically as soon as it came out. Fortunately, only a few photo searches have been removed, and some popular apps are still available. This research aims to find out the true effects of photo searching applications. This study combined a literature review and questionnaire survey to judge the pros and cons of the

photo search questions from the perspective of Chinese high school students. In the questionnaire, the questions are: “Do you use a lot of search software?” Reasons for using search software.” Does the search software help? ” These analyses and results can help readers to identify the Its usefulness as well as guide students on how to properly use the remaining photo search apps that have not yet been removed.

2. THE ANALYSIS OF PHOTO SEARCHING APPLICATIONS

Recently, the introduction of the Shuang Jian policy has attracted much attention, among which the evaluation of “network training institutions shall not provide and disseminate bad learning methods” has aroused a lot of controversy. For example, it is specifically mentioned in the policy that “taking photos and asking questions” will dull students' thinking ability and affect their independent thinking, which is in violation of the rules of education and teaching. However, it is obvious that some people do not agree with this statement.

2.1 Explanation of related concepts

This paragraph aims to introduce the meaning of photo searching applications. Photo searching software is a software which is mainly used to solve difficult problems in students' homework. It mainly searches questions by taking photos, and can also use voice or text to search questions, providing answers and detailed problem-solving ideas quickly. The popular photo searching software is “Zuoyebang” , etc.

“Shuangjian” policy is the education policy that is introduced by Chinese government in August. According to the procuratorate Daily, the introduction of the "double reduction" policy is the first step to get rid of the theory of only grades and return education to its original heart. Schools and all social forces should strictly implement the relevant policies, not to be pushy, not to be formalistic, to deeply understand the spirit of the policy, strictly implement the requirements of opinions, and strive to eliminate the "jump the gun culture", "ahead of the education" and other utilitarian phenomena, to form a good social education atmosphere. The policy specific to this research is “Online training institutions shall not provide or disseminate bad learning methods, such as "taking photos and searching questions", that idle students' thinking ability, affect students' independent thinking and violate the laws of education and teaching.”

2.2 Some typical photo searching applications and their functions

ZuoYeBang is the leading brand of online education

for primary and secondary schools. It is a homework application with problem solving as its main function in China. It provides many online answering functions, such as taking photos and searching questions, broadcasting courses, writing search and other functions. It also has the function of providing practice questions. Its question bank covers subjects including Chinese, mathematics, English, science and so on. Through the existing question bank, students can automatically set questions for practice and carry out special training[2].

This is also a very popular photo searching software in China. On the home page of the application, the following features are described:

A. Taking photos and searching questions: a detailed analysis was made immediately!

B. Massive question bank: comprehensive coverage of primary and junior high main subjects, and we have all the questions that you want to search!

C. ask questions to teachers face to face: the teacher live explanation

D. Chinese & English writing assignments: selected quality material, let you quickly master writing ideas and find writing is so simple and interesting.

E. ancient poetry assistant: appreciation and test points clearly presented, easy to learn ancient poetry, students no longer need to blindly rote memorization!

F wrong questions collection: can be exported to print, accumulate the valuable practicing experience[11].

According to their official website, “AFanTi belongs to Beijing Afandi Technology Co., LTD., which is an enterprise committed to the development of artificial intelligence education technology. The group grew from the development of AFandi Patso APP founded in 2013. At present, it has many education platforms such as Patso APP (Afanyi.com), 1-to-1 online tutoring APP (AFanyi.com), offline one-stop education store (Intelligent Learning Bar, Afanyi.com education), ERP system implantation of double teachers, research institutes, schools and so on. It is a comprehensive education technology group integrating artificial intelligence, big data, online education, consulting services and system development”[12].

It is worth to say that AFanTi has already removed the photo searching feature when the policy came out.

3. THE REASONS WHY STUDENTS TEND TO USE PHOTO SEARCHING APPLICATIONS

The reasons of the using of photo searching applications are described in detail in this section. Firstly, students do not have enough time to ask the

teacher how to solve a problem or there are too many questions to ask. The teacher may not have enough time to answer for each student. Students can use photo search software as a convenient thing to learn knowledge. Secondly, when students have trouble doing homework at home, and there is no teacher around, and parents do not have the knowledge in this area, using photo search software is the most effective and fast way, because students can get the information they want in time. Secondly, Few can deny that using photo searching applications is one of the fastest ways to get the right answer immediately. Some students take advantage of this by using photo searching applications as a shortcut to getting answers. When they face problems that they can't do or don't want to do, they just directly choose to copy the homework with photo searching applications. The influence of such plagiarism is extremely bad, and will cause serious consequences.

4. THE EVALUATION OF PHOTO SEARCHING APPLICATIONS

Many people hold different perspectives on the evaluation of photo searching applications. Some of the most representative assessments are summarized as follows.

For negative perspectives, based on the survey on the current situation of the using of photo searching applications in high school, the authors from JiNing Kongzi international school illustrates that “It interferes with teachers' understanding of students' knowledge mastery and searches for answers with search software. Teachers cannot detect the real situation of students' knowledge mastery in the process of correcting, and it is difficult to explain it purposefully[7]”. In JiaXuan Shen's article, she notes that “ “Students will depend on the use of software and lose the way of thinking and ability to solve problems[8]”. ShuLin Fan highlights that “Students' interest in learning and ability to solve problems will inevitably decline[2]”.

From the perspective of advantages, JiaXuan Shen describes that “It can not only save time, but also improve learning efficiency, which is the greater value brought by the Internet to make learning convenient and mutually beneficial.” [8] For example, students are able to do homework and practice online through the photo searching apps, so that the questions can be customized according to their own needs. Students can practice at any time and anywhere. In the practice, the system automatically tracks and records students' problems, and forms errors to record and analyze them. Students can consolidate and improve in time. ShuLin Fan also states that “photo searching applications can expand students' idea of solving problems and have the function of teacher guidance[2]”. JianBin Hou advocates strongly that “The development of intelligence depends on

knowledge and rationality. Advanced technology does not mean the regression of IQ[9]”. He gave the example of the ZuoYeBang, and he believed that “Firstly, ZuoYeBang combined with Baidu big database and comprehensive algorithm, selects the national good questions. In addition, ZuoYeBang not only liberal arts questions according to the current politics quickly updated, but also mathematics and physics questions continue to refine and expand questions. It completely covers K12 knowledge points and examination points[9]”.

5. ANALYSIS ON THE APPLICATION STATUS OF PHOTO SEARCHING APPS FOR SOME HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN NINGBO

The questionnaire collected different opinions from some high school students in Ningbo. Senior high school students are selected as the subjects of the questionnaire because the knowledge points in senior high schools are more complex and theoretical, and the demand of senior high school students for using photo searching applications is greater than that of primary and junior high school students. The whole questionnaire includes the questions of: “ what's your gender?” “what your grade?” “How often do you use photo searching apps?” “Do you have your own phone?” “Why do you use photo searching applications?” “What's the effect of using photo searching applications?”

The analysis of the frequency of using the photo searching apps presents the fact that not so many students are addicted to these apps, and most of the participants use these apps occasionally and frequently. However, it is undeniable that there are still some students who are so dependent on those photo searching apps that they can't live without it which represents a terrible situation, although there were only 9.68 percent of the participants. There are several reasons for them to use these apps. More than 70 percent of the participants used the apps for positive or understandable purposes such as being to shy to ask teachers or classmates academic questions face to face or students want to check the explain of the correct answers, but approximately 13 percent of the participants have mistakenly used these apps. They have used these apps to copy the answers. As for the attitude of the participants, it is clear that most people hold the opinion that photo searching applications are useful, only approximately 7 percent of participants admit that it's terrible while 35.48 % of the students hold a neutral attitude towards it

As a conclude, it did have some negative effects, but considering some factors, photo searching applications have more advantages than disadvantages.

As the author's personal perspective, teachers and these apps should guide students to use this function correctly instead of banning the use of these apps.

6. THE CORRECT WAY TO USE PHOTO SEARCHING APPLICATIONS PROPERLY

After making clear the advantages and disadvantages of photo searching applications and the reasons for students to use it, this section mainly describes how to use photo searching software appropriately.

Control the frequency of using photo searching applications. When students are facing the questions they can't figure out, try not to use the search software directly to view the answer and analysis, think about whether they can figure out again. The number of questions for each search also needs to be controlled, and it is best not to search only for one question one time, it is kind of wasting time.

When using photo search software, don't just look at the answers. This makes the practice questions meaningless if students check the answers directly. Students are recommended to read the explanation process carefully and try to solve the questions by themselves.

People make good use of the real exercises in the search software. Few can deny that practice makes perfect, students ought to practice the same type of questions that provided by the search software which means students have the ability to solve these kinds of problems after practicing these problems.

7. CONCLUSION

In contemporary times, with the development of technology and the spread of the internet, photo searching application has become an dispensable learning aid tool in contemporary Chinese Education. However, the introduction of the ShuangJian policy makes people doubt the authenticity of the advantages and disadvantages of photo search software. This research analyzes the two sides of online search questions to see which points can be further developed and which points need to be abandoned. Although some popular photo search softwares can still be used, only by knowing how to choose can the value and significance of the existence of software itself be played. According to the results of the questionnaire, using photo searching applications is a combination of advantages and disadvantages, but students generally believe that the benefits outweigh the drawbacks, only a few students will be addicted to the use of photo search software and the wrong use of these software such as direct copying answers. In order to avoid this phenomenon, students are suggested to control their time of using photo searching applications and properly use the applications.

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