



An Analysis of Online English Learning of Chinese High School Students

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Abstract. This article mainly discusses four teaching aspects of English teaching in China, including listening, speaking, reading and writing. Generally, the main problem is that the teaching style is too old-fashioned. Teachers unilaterally teach the knowledge to the students. This way of learning may lack of communication and interaction which is very important for learning a language. For listening and speaking, these parts will directly affect the students' comprehensive language ability. However, in our traditional teaching mode, teachers blindly let students recite words and sentences, which will limit students' ability and reduce their interest in English. Reading is the most common way people acquire knowledge and the part where people spend the most time. Online teaching makes it easier for teachers to find related materials on the Internet, and then show to students to increase their interest in learning English. Vocabulary and old teaching modes are the two biggest problems with writing for students. The rapid development of modern technology makes students pay less and less attention to English. They think that English writing will not be used in future work. With such an attitude towards learning, good grades cannot be achieved. Later in this article, the method of using mixed reality is suggested to improve the learning efficiency, make the online learning more immersive and providing students with more resources.

Keywords: Online teaching · English learning

1 Introduction

With the development of educational technology, more and more school setting up the online teaching. Especially due to the covid-19, it has caused unprecedented disruption to the society. With the consecutive lockdowns, most of courses choose to conduct online. At present, online teaching has become a great trend in the future. In the most serious period of covid-19, online teaching was adopted in all subjects, which high school English learning is a relatively popular field in recent.

The previous high school English teaching only focused on the students' English learning ability, and most teachers' teaching objectives were divided to three kinds: learning attitude, knowledge learning and the ability of thinking [1]. The teaching mode is mainly based on teachers' lectures, which will lead student fatigue in the process of learning English [1]. High school students may resist such these boring teaching method,

which will reduce the quality of learning and participation on class due to the low degree of enthusiasm [1].

The main goal of today's high school English online teaching is how to promote the development of students' language application ability [1]. The current teaching feature is that teachers abide by the student-centered teaching concept and cultivate students' English from four aspects: listening, speaking, reading and writing which could help students to consolidate their basic knowledge and improve the application ability of English they learn. Also enhance students' autonomous learning ability [1]. Teacher needs to innovate the teaching mode from the four aspects of students' language expression, knowledge learning, cultural awareness and curriculum thinking [1]. Although teacher change their teaching content, it takes a long time and energy to develop a student's autonomous learning ability, and each student's ability to absorb knowledge is different, so it is difficult to just start training in high school. It can be seen from the above that there are still many problems in Chinese education. These deficiencies are mainly caused by our outdated traditional teaching methods. To improve these problems, some new teaching methods need to be explored - such as online teaching.

The advantage of current non-online teaching is that it has a better learning atmosphere and students can better participate in class. At the same time, the teacher can quickly feel the status of each student and help in a timely manner. They can know whether the students are listening carefully. During non-online classes, students can discuss issues face-to-face with their classmates, it let the class become more active. However, non-online teaching could only provide students with very few resources. For instance, students can only talk to their own teachers when practicing oral English. And some class may have lots of students, teacher cannot notice everyone timely [2]. The shortcomings of traditional teaching methods require new ways to improve the teaching level.

With the advancement of technology, there are many new teaching techniques. For example, online teaching has become a very popular trend. It allows students and teachers to communicate and teach without face-to-face through Internet links. But on online class, teachers can't know whether students are listening carefully thus teacher cannot help them quickly, this may affect student's learning [2]. With the development of online teaching technology, the shortcomings of non-online courses can be compensated. Such as students can learn English knowledge with native speaker through online teaching, which can provide a real and natural language environment to help students improve their pronunciation. And we can use AI image recognition technology is applied to online English teaching. It can confirm the identity of each student to record the attendance rate of online classes and improve students' autonomous learning ability [3]. Another advantage of online teaching is that students can improve their self-learning ability through watching videos by themselves [4].

As a result, online teaching is a new type of teaching method that has achieved good success in many disciplines. There are also many studies in English teaching, but it can be seen that there are still many problems in English teaching. Therefore, this article is to research and sort out the previous online English teaching, so as to form a systematic cognition and provide suggestions for further development in the future.

Then this article will be analysis from the following aspects: 1. Listening and speaking 2. Reading 3. Writing 4. Suggestion.

2 Listening and Speaking

In high school English online teaching, it is more difficult to control the cultivation of listening and speaking ability than other aspects [5]. In English, listening and speaking both play an extremely important roles in improving learners' language ability and proficiency in communicating [6]. Listening and speaking are the key and difficult points of among English learning, which directly affects students' comprehensive language ability [6]. The limited abilities will greatly affect students' comprehensive ability even hinders students from further English learning after entering the university [6].

Teachers pay too much attention to traditional listening and speaking teaching, their main idea are let students recite some knowledge, such as words that appear frequently. Students just to remember and reciting, instead of communicate and focus on interaction. However, listening and speaking are indispensable parts of English learning in high school. It is an inevitable requirement for basic education [7]. It is effective to improve students' listening and oral expression by choosing different topics which are the students interested in and then do the presentations [5]. Due to the characteristics of English learning, students need a large amount of time is integrated into the English language environment, and a large proportion of them must have both listening input and oral output [5]. Only focus on the aspects of "reading, seeing, and writing" [5]. Online teaching needs to focus on the requirements of students. In the online teaching, teachers always only focus on the interaction between teachers and students, such as inviting students to answer questions, asking students to type and answer questions and then comment [5]. However, English learning should pay attention to communication and expression, so the interaction between teachers and students can promote the provision of a real environment for oral expression, and at the same time, it can attract students' enthusiasm and interest in class [5].

The traditional online teaching of listening and speaking method is mainly that the teacher asks students to repeat what they neared from the recording instead of let student communicate actively. This kind of teaching mode is boring and single, and students must follow the teacher's teaching progress to complete the teaching goals, it is difficult to improve students' positivity [7].

In addition, in traditional listening and speaking teaching, students in a class often listen to the same recording, and teachers can only teach one listening and speaking material, which will ignore the differences in students' learning abilities and their own differences [7]. As a result, it is difficult for outstanding students to further expand and improve, while students with poor foundation cannot keep up with the teaching progress, and over time they will give up on themselves and their grades cannot be improved [7]. Therefore, adapting to the development of science and technology and the changing needs of students in English listening and speaking in the new era is an inevitable requirement for the reform of English listening and speaking teaching in senior high schools [7].

In order to solve the above problems, teachers have reformed the original teaching mode. Teachers prepare 10–15 min of teaching videos, which include vocabulary,

pronunciation, grammar and related cultural background knowledge, short videos of different difficulty gradients or listening audio and original texts so that students can prepare well by themselves before class [7]. Also, it exercises students' autonomous learning ability [8]. A teacher designs an activity which intend to improve student's interest of speaking—During the online lesson, 61 students from two classes attended the class together [5]. On the first day of the online class, the most active student will choose another student and then the student who has been selected need to give a presentation in English on the second day [5]. And after the student shows it, two challengers can challenge similar content or the content selected by themselves to express in English. Then ask the rest classmates to vote among the three students. The most popular student can add 0.5 points to the oral presentation, the second-ranked student can add 0.3 points, and the third-ranked student can add 0.1 points [5]. Such activities will greatly promote students and let them want to speak.

In the self-learning link, students can review the various contents of the online teaching platform courses and complete online homework [7]. Teachers correct the assignments on the platform, give comments in time, and make appropriate comments during the second online lesson [7]. Students can also communicate with teachers ask for help through messages [7]. Teachers will also use their spare time to help students, such as uploading videos about explaining the difficulties of listening, speaking to the platform for students who want to review or preview [7].

3 Reading

Reading plays an important role in English learning, it is the skill that we use the most frequent. Compared to listening, speaking and writing, we spend a majority of time on reading articles, the rest of the parts are relatively small. Reading is the most common way to obtain knowledge. Reading run through people's daily life. It needs to be cultivated and exercised every day to achieve the desired effect [8].

There is a big gap between online and non-online teaching. In traditional teaching, students acquire reading knowledge through teachers, while online teaching enables students to easily gain knowledge. Whether it is at home or anywhere, they can learn English reading without being limited by time and space limit [8]. Teachers can also find more relevant reading teaching materials from the Internet and learn more excellent teaching methods. If the traditional teaching mode has certain limitations, then this online teaching mode can just make up for these shortcomings [8]. Teachers can use internet to find more interesting materials and information in online teaching [8]. Through mutual integration and innovation, while improving the quality of reading, it can also improve students' interest in learning, so that students can actively integrate into English reading lesson, promote students to strengthen their reading ability, and improve students' reading ability [8]. The characteristic of online teaching is that teachers can find more reading knowledge and reading materials about life from the Internet, and effectively help students to carry out extracurricular reading training [8]. Therefore, when teachers conduct online teaching, they need effectively combine real life to help students understand the knowledge in class, so that students can improve their English reading ability through continuous learning and understanding [8]. For example, teachers can introduce

the theme of “lifestyle” into lesson, so that students can develop their own reading ability by combining real-life cases [8]. First, teachers can search for information related to this topic through the Internet. Before teaching, teachers can raise students’ interest in learning by asking questions. For example, “Can you talk about your own lifestyle, and find out about other people’s?” Teaching by asking questions can effectively integrate students into the learning atmosphere [8]. It can effectively stimulate students’ interest in learning, improve their enthusiasm for learning, and also improve students’ reading ability [8].

4 Writing

Writing is an indispensable course in high schools learning. In the process of learning English, students need to have enough grammar foundation and vocabulary storage in terms of writing, so that to combine the knowledge they learned with writing, and then flexibly apply it in writing [9]. In the developing modern times, English plays an important role in it, and it has become an inevitable trend for learning English [9]. Therefore, in the process of writing, teachers should integrate information to strengthen and optimize online English writing teaching [9].

So far, there are two main problems in English writing in high school. The first is the rigidity of writing mode [9]. The current teaching method is *kaput*, which leads to a stalemate in the English writing [9]. For the development of the society, the teaching method still retains the previous old teaching style, which will cause the students in high school to gradually reduce their interest in English writing [9]. Under the condition of poor foundation, the normalization of English teaching also makes it impossible for students to enhance their active interest in learning, and then it is difficult to overcome the difficulties encountered in learning [9]. The second problem is that people don’t pay enough attention to English. Many students will subconsciously think that English will not occupy a big share in their future careers, so they will study in a perfunctory attitude [9]. Under this learning trend, they cannot achieve a great result in writing [9].

Online teaching can solve this problem and improve students’ interest in writing [9]. In fact, in the previous English reading teaching, in order to stimulate students’ interest in English reading, multimedia methods are commonly used methods [9]. However, in the teaching of writing classes, many teachers often bring topics directly to the students, and let the students write about this topic [9]. Thinking from the perspective of students, there is only one dry writing topic, how can it stimulate interest in writing? As a result, students often feel that English writing teaching is very boring, and even wear out [9]. Therefore, in order to mobilize students’ interest in English writing, a good way to lead out the topic is particularly important [9]. Implementing with the help of modern multimedia means can effectively stimulate students’ interest in English writing and thirst for knowledge, and also promote the harmonious relationship between teachers and students played an important role [9].

5 Adopting Mixed Reality in English Learning

Based on the above discussion, at present, there are still a series of problems in English teaching in China. One way to effectively change this situation is to use mixed reality.

Mixed reality (MR) is the merging of real and virtual worlds to produce new environments and visualizations, where physical and digital objects co-exist and interact in real time. This means even if teachers and students are not physically in the same place, they can still “enter” into the same space by wearing MR devices, like meeting each other in the real world, which is the combine of real and virtual worlds. Teachers can have lessons with students in the three-dimensional world (by using MR devices), which is basically no different in the real world. Although teacher and students are not together, when they put on the devices, the same three-dimensional imaging picture can be presented in front of them.

It is hoped that the devices could be designed to look like glasses, such as like HoloLens which is an AR product produced by Microsoft [10]. If it designs to this appearance, it would be easy to carry. When students or teachers go outside, it would be very convenient to carry out with them. The advantages of using MR to have online lessons is that it is very helpful for speaking class, which the technology provide an immersive environment for students. They can also communicate with foreigners instead of their teacher who have poor pronunciation. It also can bring a great help for students who want to go abroad in the future. It can make them familiar with the feeling of communicating with native speakers in advance, and they will not be afraid to go abroad later.

6 Conclusion

This article mainly discusses four problems that Chinese students meet when they are learning English. These problems are mainly reflected in these aspects: listening, speaking, reading and writing. After analyzing these problems, this article gives some suggestions that can use mixed reality to improve online teaching.

For listening and speaking, teachers put too much emphasis on getting students to repeat what they heard in the audio and recite words and sentences instead of letting them choose topics which they have interests to do presentation or communicate. Especially in online teaching, teachers blindly let students answer questions by typing into the chat box. This kind of teaching method cannot make students learn listening and speaking more effectively, nor can they arouse their interest in English, it will only make them feel bored.

Reading runs through our daily lives and is one of the most common ways to acquire knowledge compared to others. When teaching reading online, teachers can find materials more conveniently and effectively, and provide these to students in time, such as news, articles and books. This allows students to improve their reading ability by selecting practical cases that they are interest to them, so that students are more willingness to focus on the lessons.

Vocabulary and grammar are essential in writing and use the knowledge we learn flexibly is also important. Nowadays, there are two main problems in learning writing. One is the problem of writing mode, which still retains the old teaching style. With the rapid development of China, the previous teaching mode can no longer effectively help students in future. Another problem is that some students think that English will not be used in their work, which makes them negatively treat English. However, online

teaching can solve this problem through multimedia and the application of technology can effectively stimulate students' interest in writing and curiosity.

In order to solve the disadvantages of online teaching, this article proposes a better improvement by adding mixed reality devices. When teachers and students bring this device, mixed reality allows students and teachers to enter an environment that is almost indistinguishable from the real world, at the same time the same 3D image will appear in front of their eyes. This could allow students and teachers to communicate face-to-face even if they are not in the same space. This also allows for better practicing. For example, students can communicate with foreigners to improve their speaking skills. However, this article only focuses on Chinese high school students and does not involve all kinds of students and countries. Students of more ages and countries could be looked at in future research.

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