BLENDED LEARNING APPROACHES TO TEACHING LISTENING

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Abstract: In this article, I want to show you to explore how blended learning can enhance the teaching of listening skills, a critical component of language acquisition.

Key words: Blended learning, listening skills, Language acquisition, digital tools, Authentic resources, Online platforms, Interactive listening, Personalized feedback, Collaborative listening, Pre-listening activities, During-listening activities Post-listening activities, Flexible learning, Hybrid teaching, Student engagement, Gamification, Technology in education, Language learning apps, Learning management systems (LSM), Educational innovation.

In today's fast-paced and technology-driven world, teaching methods are constantly evolving to meet the needs of diverse learners. One such innovative approach is blended learning, which combines traditional classroom instruction with digital tools and online resources.

What is blended learning?

Blended learning integrates face-to-face teaching with online activities and digital tools, creating a dynamic and flexible learning environment. For teaching listening, this approach offers opportunities to use authentic materials, interactive platforms, and personalized feedback, making the learning process engaging and effective.

Benefits of blended learning for listening for listening

Access to authentic resources

• Blended learning allows students to access authentic listening materials, such as podcasts, interviews, audiobooks, and videos. These resources expose learners to different accents, intonations, and real-world contexts, which are essential for developing listening skills.

• Flexibility and convenience

Learners can practice listening at their own pace and revisit materials as needed. For instance, online platforms like YouTube or language learning apps provide unlimited opportunities for learners to hone their skills outside the classroom.

• Interactive tools

This benefit of blended listening consists of digital tools such as quizzes, speech-totext applications, and listening games provide immediate feedback, helping students identify their strengths and weaknesses. These tools make learning more interactive and enjoyable.

Personalized learning

Blended learning platforms often allow teachers to tailor listening activities based on individual student needs, ensuring that every learner progresses at their own pace

• Collaborative learning opportunities

Blended learning fosters collaboration through group activities, discussion boards, and peer feedback. For example, students might listen to a recording, summarize it, and discuss their interpretations with classmates online or in class.

Strategies for implementing blended learning in listening lessons

Pre-listening activities. Use online tools to introduce vocabulary, provide context, or share short clips related to the listening material. For instance, teachers can assign a brief video on TED-Ed to activate prior knowledge.

During-listening Activities. Utilize interactive platforms such as EdPuzzle, where teachers can embed questions within audio or video recordings to keep students engaged and focused.

Post-listening activities. Encourage students to summarize, analyze, or discuss the content through online forums or collaborative platforms Google Classroom. This reinforces comprehension and critical thinking skills.

Feedback and reflection. Use learning management systems (LMS) to provide personalized feedback on student performance. Reflective journals or blogs can also encourage learners to document their listening journey.

Challenges and solutions

Technical issues. Students may face challenges accessing digital tools due to lack of devices or internet connectivity. Solutions include providing offline materials or using hybrid resources like CDs or flash drives.

Overwhelming choices. With so many online resources available, students may feel overwhelmed. Teachers should create reliable and level appreciate materials to simplify the process.

Maintaining engagement. To keep students motivated, incorporate gamified elements, such as badges or leaderboards, into listening activities.

To conclude, in my point of view, blended learning provides an innovative and effective approach to teaching listening skills. By combining traditional methods with modern technology, educators can create a rich learning environment that caters to individual needs, fosters engagement, and prepares students for real-world communication. When implemented thoughtfully, blended learning has the potential to transform listening lessons and enhance language proficiency. Blended learning is not just a trend but a powerful tool that brings variety and flexibility to the classroom, ensuring students remain active participants in their learning journey.



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