ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION WITH DUOLINGO

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Abstract: The function of Duolingo as an online resource for English language instruction is examined in this article. Through observational and literature-based analysis, it examines the platform's teaching technique, learner engagement, benefits, and drawbacks. According to the research, Duolingo works well for learning vocabulary and the fundamentals of grammar, but not so well for more complex language skills that call for social engagement.

Introduction

It is no longer necessary to sit in a traditional classroom to learn a new language in the fast-paced digital world of today. Duolingo is one of the most well-known websites that is transforming language learning. English language learners all over the world now pick Duolingo because of its gamified learning environment, captivating features, and easy-to-use interface. However, how successful is it in real-world instruction? This article examines the methodologies, user experiences, and results of utilizing Duolingo as an English education tool.

Methodology

We looked at Duolingo from the viewpoints of both teachers and students in order to have a better understanding of how the program aids in English language acquisition. The methodology comprised conducting informal interviews with users, examining studies on the app's efficacy, and evaluating its features. In order to monitor development and involvement, we also observed students for four weeks. The fundamental teaching approach of Duolingo is founded on the idea of microlearning, which involves imparting knowledge through brief

lessons that emphasize vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, and listening comprehension. The platform enhances memory and retention through spaced repetition and real-time feedback. It has goal-setting tools, aural cues, and images to keep learners motivated and promote consistent practice.

Discussion & Result

A number of conclusions emerged from our observations and conversations. Duolingo is really user-friendly and entertaining. Because it is compatible with both desktop and mobile devices, it is perfect for students with hectic schedules. Along with incentives like levels, streaks, and points, the vibrant UI keeps consumers engaged and returning. [1]Students valued the platform's self-paced features, which let them study for longer periods of time or in shorter bursts depending on their schedules. Through audio exercises and speech recognition capabilities [2], the software also enhances speaking and listening abilities. Although not perfect, these features help users gain confidence when actively utilizing English.

But there are drawbacks to Duolingo as well. It is great for learning fundamental grammar and expanding one's vocabulary, but it lacks the depth of in-person conversations and cultural nuances. To become fluent, learners frequently need to combine the app with speaking exercises, videos, books, or more conventional language instruction. Many teachers believe Duolingo to be a useful addition to their teaching resources. It is effective for practice exercises, homework assignments, and review sessions, particularly when it comes to reiterating previously taught principles. However, the human and interactive elements of classroom instruction cannot be entirely replaced by it.

The learning design of Duolingo has psychological advantages as well. Learner commitment is raised through a positive reinforcement loop produced by the usage of gamification components like accomplishment badges and streaks. The gamified experience can be life-changing for kids who frequently lack motivation in conventional settings.[3] Even

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[1] Duolingo. (2024). About Duolingo. Retrieved from https://www.duolingo.com

[2].Godwin-Jones, R. (2018). Using mobile apps for language learning. Language Learning & Technology, 22(3), 3–17

[3] Kim, D., Ruecker, D., & Kim, D.-J. (2017). Mobile-assisted language learning and vocabulary acquisition. ReCALL, 29(1), 3-19.

hesitant students enjoyed finishing classes and discussing their achievement with their peers, according to teachers. Furthermore, because Duolingo's main service is free, students from a variety of geographic locations and backgrounds can learn English without facing financial obstacles. In educational settings with limited resources, this democratization of language acquisition has a particularly significant effect.

Notwithstanding its advantages, Duolingo is unable to perfectly capture the depth of interpersonal communication and contextual language use. In addition to vocabulary and syntax, communication also includes body language, tone, cultural allusions, and emotional intelligence. The greatest ways to build these components are through dialogue, immersion, and real-world feedback. Since language learning is social by nature, even while Duolingo can teach you the fundamentals, becoming proficient requires more practice, such as conversing with native speakers, writing essays, watching movies, and reading a lot.

Numerous studies have demonstrated that, in terms of quantifiable results, beginners and intermediate Duolingo users can achieve gains on par with those of students in conventional classroom settings. Vesselinov and Grego (2012) found that 34 hours of Duolingo training was comparable to a semester of language study at a university. This bolsters the notion that, when used regularly and with intention, Duolingo may be a useful tool.[4]

Conclusion

To sum up, Duolingo has improved the accessibility, fun, and manageability of learning English for students of various ages and backgrounds. Its interactive and adaptable structure, which enables users to learn at their own pace and make consistent progress, is its greatest asset. Duolingo should, however, be a component of a more comprehensive language-learning approach for students who want to achieve actual mastery. It can also be a useful tool for teachers, enhancing courses and encouraging individual study. Although

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[4] Vesselinov, R., & Grego, J. (2012). Duolingo effectiveness study. City University of New York. Retrieved from https://www.duolingo.com/efficacy-study

Duolingo can help[5] you learn English, proficiency requires more work than just using the app.

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