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Effectiveness Of Computer Assisted Language Learning Package to Enhance Comprehension Ability of High School Students

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Abstract

The main aim of the present study was to check the effectiveness of Computer Assisted Language Learning Package in developing comprehension skills among high school students. To test the effectiveness of Computer Assisted Language Learning Package in terms of comprehension ability, experiment was conducted utilizing 'two equal groups only post-test design'. Purposive sampling procedure was followed for sample selection. Two groups were made equal on the base of the students' marks in English subject obtained in the previous school exam. The sample was comprised of 56 students. Teaching method to both groups were distributed by randomization. Data were collected on post-test i.e., comprehension ability test. Data were analysed employing t-test. Computer Assisted Language Learning Package was found effective in terms of the students' comprehension ability.

Key Words: Computer Assisted Language Learning

Introduction

After COVID-19, there has been rapid increase in integrating technology in teaching-learning process. Language Learning is not an exception. Technological influence on language learning is rapidly increasing. It can be broadly categorized into two sections (1) Instructional Uses and (2) Noninstructional Uses. Teaching, learning and remediation are instructional uses. Various experiments are conducted utilizing technology in education. There are problems of utilizing computers for instructional uses. One of them is unavailability of software in regional languages. They do not satisfy local needs i.e., communication and context. The researcher developed a Computer Assisted Language Learning Package for developing comprehension ability to assess its effectiveness. In the present research an attempt was made to employ computer assisted language learning package for teaching of English comprehension.

Objectives

The present research was carried out with the following objectives.

- 1. To develop a Computer Assisted Language Learning package to enhance comprehension ability.
- 2. To test the effectiveness of the Computer Assisted Language Learning Package in terms of comprehension ability.



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Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses was formulated for the experimentation.

There would be no significant difference between the mean scores on the comprehension ability test of the experimental group and the control group.

Variables

The present research was experimental research. Variables involved in the study

were...

- 1. Independent Variable. The independent variable was the treatment i.e., CALL programme.
- 2. Dependant Variable. Students' mean scores on post-test i.e., comprehension ability test was dependant variable.
- 3. Control Variables. The variables (1) Gender, (2) Grade, and (3) School Environment, were controlled during the experimentation.

Significance of the study

The significance of the present study can be pointed out as under:

- 1. The CALL Package directly benefits for the teaching-learning process of language learning classes of high school level. This Package may be used at any stage of teaching i.e., for introduction, presentation, drilling, evaluation, assignment or revision.
- On the part of the learners the CALL Package meets the psychological needs of the learners, since some basic laws of learning like - programme learning through small steps, repetition, changing of stimulus, verbal and non-verbal visual components, testing and active involvement of the learners are followed.
- 3. It will bring novelty and interest in routine learning process through the use of educational technology.
- 4. The CALL Package would help the teachers while teaching comprehension.



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Delimitations of the study

While interpreting the result of this study, the following delimitations should be kept in mind.

- 1. The school for experiment was selected purposively.
- 2. The content of comprehension was selected by the researcher keeping in mind the requirement of the high school students.
- 3. The post-test was a teacher made test and was not the standardized one.

Population and sample

The population of the present study comprised of students studying English as a second language at high school level of Gujarati medium schools.

The sample of the present study was IX grade students of Shri Om Vidhyalay High School, Rajkot. The researcher selected the school purposively. Two groups were made equal according to students' previous academic achievement of English Language. The method to each group were distributed by randomization.

Research design

The present research was experimental in nature. It was designed as 'Two equal groups only post-test design'. The experimental group received instruction through CALL Package, and the control group received instruction through the traditional method. The data were collected by administering the post-test. After the treatment phase the scores of the students obtained on the post-test were analysed by employing t-test as statistical technique. Effectiveness of the CALL Package was worked out by testing the null hypotheses.

Methods of analysis

Independent t-test was selected as statistical technique because two groups' means were to be compared for its significance. Prior to the treatment phase these two groups were equalized on the basis of their past achievement. Allotment of treatment was randomized. The scores of the post-test were obtained at interval scale.



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Data Analysis and Interpretation

The researcher employed independent sample t-test as a statistical technique as the means of two independent groups were to be compared. Both the groups were made equal before the experiment with the help of students' previous academic achievement in English Language. Allotment of the teaching method to each group was randomized. After the treatment phase, a teacher made test was given to both groups and mean achievement scores, standard deviation and t-value were computed of which the details are given in the below table.

Table No. 1

Mean Achievement Score, Standard Deviation and t-value of both groups

| Group | n | Mean | S.D. | t-value |
|--------------|----|-------|------|---------|
| Experimental | 28 | 26.58 | 4.56 | 2.89 |
| Control | 28 | 22.21 | 4.12 | |

Findings

The findings of the present study were...

- The CALL Package developed to teach English Language Comprehension to the students of grade IX was effective with respect to the students' academic achievement.
- 2. It is true that no technology can replace a good teacher. So far as teaching English Language is concerned, there is a shortage of good teachers especially in remote areas. The CALL Package can meet the need and the demand of a good teacher.
- 3. The students responded favourably towards learning through CAI Package. They liked to learn other subjects by this method. According to them this method was easy to understand, easy to remember, more interesting, and stress less. Concentration increases, discipline is maintained and self-learning is possible through this method.



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Educational Implication

From the findings of the present study following educational implications could be drawn.

- 1. To bring novelty and to provide visual experiences, CALL Package can be effective and useful in class-room teaching.
- 2. CALL Package is found useful to increase the students' concentration and interest. To satisfy the need of different types of learners especially slow learners, visual learners the teachers should use this method.
- 3. The government can arrange training programmes for the teachers to develop such programmes.
- 4. The teachers should be inspired to develop and to use Computer Assisted Language Learning Programmes.



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