

USING PODCASTS FOR EXTENSIVE LISTENING TO IMPROVE STUDENTS' LISTENING SKILLS

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OUTLINE

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INTRODUCTION

Available authentic
materials for listening
inside & outside
classroom



RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is current situation of students' extensive listening practice?
2. What are students' perceptions of using podcasts for extensive listening to improve listening skills?
 - **Sub questions:**
 - Are there any problems that encountered by students when listening to podcasts extensively?
 - Do students agree that podcasts are suitable for extensive listening activity?
 - Do students agree that podcasts are useful tool for improving listening skills?
 - Which podcasting websites are most interested in by students?
 - Will students continue to listen to podcasts extensively in the future?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Contrasting intensive and extensive listening		
Intensive	Types of listening	Extensive
Accuracy	GOAL	Fluency
Listen to details/ special information ; mimic texts; improve and develop listening strategies	PURPOSE	Get general information; enjoy; build word recognition ability; chunking language into meaningful units of sound.
Sounds, words, and pronunciation- linking, connected speech; notice new language features	FOCUS	Meaning; global comprehension
Often difficult; shorter passages; teacher chooses	MATERIAL	Easy; longer passage; learner chooses
Not much	AMOUNT	A lot
Slower	SPEED	Faster
Must finish; time constraints	METHOD	Stop if don't like; rewind and repeat- listen again and again

BENEFITS OF EXTENSIVE LISTENING

- Improve listening fluency
- Increase exposure to spoken language, rate of recognition, vocabulary and depth of word knowledge, comprehension
- Improve pronunciation skills, listening perseverance
- Self-study better
- Develop students' metacognitive skills for language learning

PODCAST



BASIC USAGES OF PODCAST IN EDUCATION

- Bring a new paradigm of teaching and learning
- Be a rich source for authentic materials
- Bring new chances for educators to discover the attractive areas of teaching
- Be alternative method of learning that can help to enhance their listening skills
- Empowers students to manage their own time
- Be used for lectures recording, independent learning, and project- based learning

METHODOLOGY

Phase one

- To discover the students' practice of extensive listening

Phase two

- To find answers for the second questions about perceptions of students on using Podcasts for extensive listening to improve listening skills

PHASE ONE

- 49 senior students from two classes at HUBT
- Level expected: Pre- intermediate
- The questionnaire contains totally six questions of which four questions (1, 2, 6) are multiple choice ones with question number two that can be answered by circling more than one option, two left ones.
- For questions 3, 4 and 5, with each given option in each question, respondents are asked to express their frequency of use by scoring them according to a Likert scale from one to five

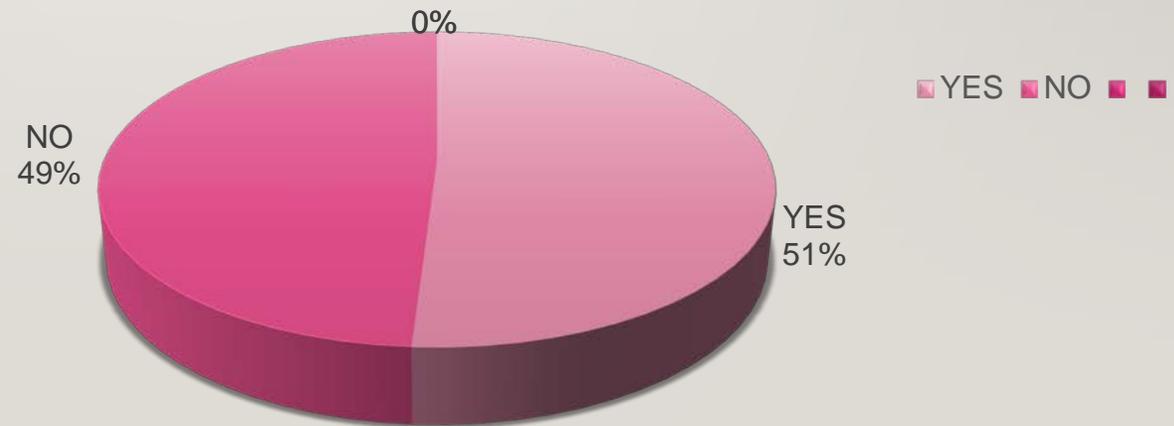
PHASE TWO

- The focus group of 5 voluntary senior students among respondents in the 1st phase participated in this phase by experiencing podcasts extensively in a month.
- Journal entries and open-ended questionnaire were employed to collect data.
- The journal entries contain 2 main questions:
 - To ask participants about names, length, website addresses, and main contents of podcasts that they listen to
 - To seek for students' often- met problems while listening to podcasts extensively day by day, and podcast by podcast.

FINDINGS

- Question 1:

The first question of the survey questionnaire dealt with the aim to ask students whether they have practiced EL or not



Reasons for students' not practicing EL

Items	The number of students	The percentage of students
A. You are too busy.	24/24	100%
B. You are lack of encouragement to do extensive listening.	23/24	95.8%
C. You cannot find suitable sources for your EL.	20/24	83.3%
D. You do not have equipment for your EL.	0/24	0%
E. You are not aware of benefits of EL.	11/24	45.8%
F. Others:	0/24	0%

Students' EL sources

EL sources	Mean	Median	Mode
A. Audio books	2.67	3	3
B. Films and movies	3.11	4	3
C. Songs	3.67	4	4
D. Radio news	2.56	2	2
E. Podcasts	1.49	1	1
F. TV programs	2.62	2	3
G. Course books' tapes	2.73	4	3

Students' EL tools

	Mean	Median	Mode
A. Cell phone	3.02	3	4
B. Computer	3.62	4	4
C. DVD player	2.67	3	4
D. iPod	1.6	1	1
E. MP3, MP4	2.62	3	4
F. Radio	2.42	2	2
G. Television	1.8	2	2

Students' activities while listening extensively

	Mean	Median	Mode
A. Nothing, just listen	2.96	3	4
B. Take notes	2.4	2	1
C. Read <i>transcripts, subtitles, lyrics,</i> ...	3.13	3	4
D. Read or sing along	2.76	3	2
E. Do exercises or housework	2.38	2	2

What are students' perceptions of using podcasts for extensive listening to improve listening skills?

This question was answered by five sub questions related to:

- problems students encountered while listening to podcasts
- their attitudes towards using podcasts for EL activity
- their attitudes towards the use of podcasts for improving listening skills
- their favorite podcasting sites
- their intentions for listening to podcasts in the future

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graph TD; A[Problems encountered by students while listening to podcasts extensively] --- B[the presence of new vocabulary items]; A --- C[the length of podcast]; A --- D[the voice and speaking speed of speakers]; A --- E[choosing suitable podcasts];
```

Problems encountered by students while listening to podcasts extensively

the presence of new vocabulary items

the length of podcast

the voice and speaking speed of speakers

choosing suitable podcasts

Students' attitudes towards using podcasts for EL activity

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graph TD; A[Students' attitudes towards using podcasts for EL activity] --- B[they can listen to podcasts anytime and anywhere]; A --- C[most of podcasts are regularly updated]; A --- D[podcasts offered them variety of listening levels, speakers' voices, and topics]; A --- E[podcasts are free of charge]; A --- F[podcasts are suitable for EL outside classroom thanks to its subscribing function];
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STUDENTS' FAVORITE PODCAST SITES

Breaking News English

2,231 Free English Lessons in 7 Levels

[1,000 Ideas e-Book](#)

[4,311 More Lessons](#)

[Level 0](#) [Level 1](#) [Level 2](#) [Level 3](#) [Level 4](#) [Level 5](#) [Level 6](#) [Mini-Lessons](#) [Speed Reading](#) [5-Speed Listening](#) [Dictation](#)

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Latest Lessons - July 22nd, 2016



[Trump employee apologises for plagiarising Michelle Obama speech](#)

22nd July - "Easier"

An employee of the Trump Organisation has admitted plagiarism in helping to write Melania Trump's speech.

[Level 0](#) [Level 1](#) [Level 2](#) [Level 3](#)



[6,000 held after failed Turkey coup](#)

20th July - "Harder"

The Turkish government is increasing its efforts to detain those it deems responsible for the weekend's failed coup attempt.

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Students' intention of listening to podcasts extensively in the future

	Student A	Student B	Student C	Student D	Student E
Yes	√	√	√		√
No				√	

IMPLICATIONS

For teachers & educators

- Raise students' awareness of EL's benefits, give incentives, offer and suggest suitable sources for EL to make EL become habit and interest of students outside classroom.
- Design other educational sources of EL and employ them in their EL more often, especially EL activities such as course book's tapes, audio books, or podcasts.

SUGGESTED PODCASTS

Breaking News English

FREE, Interactive & Printable English Lessons 7 in LEVELS
26-Page Handouts | 2-Page Mini-Lessons | 30+ Online Activities
5-Speed Listening | Multi-Speed Reading | Dictation | Speaking
Current Events | ESL | EFL | Topical Lessons | All Skills



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4,103 lessons from Sean's 9 other websites.

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2,051 FREE Lessons - April 16th, 2015 Connect

High heels cause arthritis and damaged knees

16th April - "Harder"
Shoes with high heels are the fashion choice for many women around the world. However, a new study proves that wearing high heels...
[Level 4](#) [Level 5](#) [Level 6](#) [ALL](#)

Albendazole 200mg

Diệt giun, diệt cả trứng giun

THÔNG TIN SẢN PHẨM

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Castro and Obama in historic handshake

13th April - "Easier"
Relations between the USA and Cuba took a step towards becoming more normal on Friday when the leaders of the two countries shook hands...

The pie team

IMPLICATIONS

- **For students' activities**

- filling in the report forms prepared by teachers and listing topics, assessing levels of difficulty, as well as summarize contents of tapes weekly
- using individual blog, the cooperative bog or facebook discussion group
- peer interview podcast or group presentation podcast (searching the podcast topics of interest and designing listening questions with answer keys to their partners or classmates)

LIMITATIONS

- the overall picture of students' perceptions of using podcasts for EL might be not generalized
- the awareness of podcasts' use for EL might be restricted because of their short time listening

CONCLUSION

- the amount of regular exposure time to target language input is indispensable to enhance students' listening skills
- this research might stimulate consideration of the application of podcasts in listening materials both outside and inside the classroom and make it convenient for students in foreign language acquisition process

Thank you ...

