

FLIPGRID - A VIRTUAL LEARNING TOOL - TO ENHANCE STUDENTS' SPEAKING PERFORMANCE LOCALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

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ABSTRACT

As can be seen, the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing are all interconnected. While proficiency in each skill is necessary to become a well-rounded communicator, an ability to speak skillfully provides speakers with several distinct advantages. However, speaking skills seem to be difficult to develop or not only due to interruption of routine speaking activities and technical issues in distance learning process during the COVID-19 pandemic but also because of the load-reduced curriculum of the Ministry of Education. Consequently, the aim of the study is to explore the benefits and features of Flipgrid, a video platform, used as students' learning support to improve their speaking skills, learning autonomy, and self-evaluation. Additionally, Flipgrid is also employed as teacher's flexible assessing app, and as a magic digital device for connecting students globally, from my school to other places domestically and internationally. The study employed mixed methods with the participation of 35 English-majored ten-graders at Thang Long high school for the gifted. The data were gathered at multiple points of time from students' videos, interviews and questionnaires and analyzed by qualitative and quantitative approaches. The findings show that using Flipgrid would remarkably foster learners' speaking skills for 10 graders in multitude of aspects including fluency, pronunciation and presentation skills, hone their independent learning, their own evaluation, educators' assessment during online study and build a speaking exchange environment with learners locally and overseas. In light of the findings, Flipgrid changed students' attitudes towards speaking skills as well as teachers' assessment of learners' oral competence.



speaking examiners in Vietnam.

Vu Thuy Huong has been a teacher of English at Thang Long high school for the gifted for 24 years. She has received scholarships to study abroad. In 2010, Ms. Huong studied in Sweden for an M.A degree, in 2011, in Singapore for a tailored professional development program for six months. Additionally, she has attended international conferences domestically and overseas. She is a core member of VietTESOL and a team leader of Share_it. In 2018, she was honored to be nominated to attend the TEA program in the U.S.A. Presently, she is one of the Cambridge