THE USE OF EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS IN DEVELOPING SPEAKING SKILLS

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Abstract: This article explores the importance and effectiveness of educational videos in developing speaking skills in foreign language learning, particularly in English language education. In the modern educational environment, technological development has introduced new opportunities for improving teaching methods and making the learning process more interactive and productive. Educational videos available on platforms such as YouTube, TED Talks, and other digital learning resources provide students with valuable opportunities to improve their oral communication abilities. Through these videos, learners can observe native speakers, understand natural pronunciation, recognize different accents, learn new vocabulary, and become familiar with authentic expressions used in everyday communication. Educational videos also provide visual and auditory information simultaneously, which makes language learning more interesting and understandable. Activities such as watching videos, repeating sentences, imitating speakers, practicing dialogues, answering questions, and retelling video content can significantly contribute to the development of speaking fluency and confidence. The article examines the major advantages of educational videos, their influence on students' motivation, and their role in developing pronunciation, vocabulary, grammatical accuracy, and communicative competence. Furthermore, it discusses different methods of integrating video materials into classroom activities and independent learning. Special attention is also given to possible challenges, including passive watching, inappropriate video selection, technical difficulties, and excessive dependence on digital resources. The article emphasizes that educational videos should be used not only as entertainment materials but also as purposeful instructional tools supported by speaking activities and teacher guidance. The main purpose of this study is to investigate how educational videos contribute to the development of speaking skills and identify effective strategies for incorporating video-based activities into foreign language teaching. The article concludes that the systematic and meaningful use of educational videos can create a more engaging learning environment and help students become more confident, fluent, and effective English speakers.

Keywords: educational videos, speaking skills, English language learning, video-based learning, pronunciation, speaking fluency, vocabulary development, communicative competence, listening comprehension, digital education, interactive learning, language teaching, student motivation, audiovisual materials, oral communication.

Introduction: In the modern world, the development of technology has significantly influenced the educational system and the methods used in foreign language teaching. Traditional teaching methods are increasingly being combined with digital resources to create more effective and interactive learning environments. Among these resources, educational videos have become one of the most useful tools for developing students' foreign language abilities. They provide learners with opportunities to observe real communication, listen to native speakers, understand different accents, and practice speaking in various situations. Speaking is one of the most important skills in learning a foreign language because it allows people to express their thoughts, share information, communicate with others, and participate in everyday conversations. However, many students experience difficulties when speaking English. They may understand grammar rules and know a large number of words but still feel uncomfortable when trying to express their ideas orally. Some learners are afraid of making mistakes, while others have difficulties with pronunciation, fluency, vocabulary selection, and sentence construction. These challenges demonstrate the importance of using effective teaching materials that encourage students to practice speaking regularly. Educational videos can help solve some of these problems by providing authentic examples of spoken language. Through videos, learners can observe how people communicate in real-life situations, how they pronounce words, how they use intonation, and how they respond to different questions. Platforms such as YouTube, TED Talks, BBC Learning English, and other educational websites offer a wide variety of materials suitable for different language levels. Students can watch interviews, conversations, presentations, short stories, documentaries, and educational lessons to develop their speaking abilities. Another important advantage of educational videos is that they combine visual and auditory information. This combination helps students understand the context of conversations and remember new expressions more effectively. For example, when students watch a video about travelling, they can learn useful vocabulary related to airports, hotels, transportation, and tourism. They can then use these expressions in role-playing activities and conversations. Furthermore, video-based learning increases students' interest and motivation because it makes lessons more attractive and less monotonous. The purpose of this article is to examine the role of educational videos in developing speaking skills, identify their main advantages and limitations, and explore effective ways of using video materials in English language teaching.

Main part: Educational videos have become an important part of modern foreign language education because they provide students with opportunities to develop their speaking skills through visual and auditory experiences. Unlike traditional textbooks, videos present language in real communication contexts. Learners can observe conversations, facial expressions, gestures, body language, and

pronunciation patterns. These elements help students understand how language is used naturally in different situations. When students watch educational videos regularly, they become more familiar with spoken English and gradually improve their ability to communicate effectively.Another significant benefit of educational videos is the improvement of speaking fluency. Fluency refers to the ability to speak smoothly, naturally, and without unnecessary pauses. Many English learners know grammar rules and vocabulary but cannot express their ideas quickly. Watching conversations and interviews helps students understand how people organize their thoughts and respond to questions. After watching a video, students can summarize its main ideas, describe what they have seen, or express their personal opinions about the topic. These activities encourage learners to speak independently and develop greater confidence in communication.Vocabulary development is also closely connected with video-based learning. A strong vocabulary is necessary for expressing ideas clearly and understanding other speakers. Educational videos introduce students to new words, phrases, idioms, phrasal verbs, and expressions in meaningful contexts. For example, a video about environmental protection may introduce words such as pollution, recycling, climate change, and sustainability. Instead of memorizing isolated words, students can understand their meanings through images, situations, and examples. They can also write down unfamiliar expressions and use them in their own sentences and conversations. This approach makes vocabulary learning more practical and memorable.Role-playing activities based on educational videos are also effective in developing communication skills. Students can watch a conversation between two people and then perform a similar dialogue with their classmates. They may act as customers and shop assistants, tourists and guides, doctors and patients, or teachers and students. Such activities help learners practice everyday expressions and understand how to communicate in different social situations. Role-playing also creates an interactive classroom environment where students can use the language actively rather than simply listening to explanations.Educational videos also help learners improve their listening comprehension, which is directly related to speaking development. In order to communicate effectively, students must understand what other people are saying. Videos expose learners to different speaking speeds, accents, voices, and communication styles. At the beginning, students may watch videos with subtitles to understand the general meaning. Later, they can gradually remove subtitles and focus on listening. After watching, teachers can ask comprehension questions, organize discussions, and encourage students to explain the information they have understood. In this way, listening activities become a starting point for speaking practice.One effective technique used in video-based language learning is shadowing. Shadowing is a method in which learners listen to a speaker and repeat the words or sentences immediately, trying to imitate the original pronunciation, rhythm, and intonation. This technique is particularly useful for students who want to improve their speaking fluency and pronunciation. For example, a student can choose a short English video, listen to one sentence, and repeat it several times. By practicing regularly, learners can develop better control over their pronunciation and become more comfortable speaking English. Shadowing also helps students

recognize natural speech patterns that are sometimes difficult to understand through textbooks aloneAnother useful technique is video retelling. In this activity, students watch a short educational video and then retell its content using their own words. The teacher may ask students to identify the main characters, important events, central ideas, and conclusions. This activity encourages students to organize information, select appropriate vocabulary, and construct meaningful sentences. For example, after watching a short video about healthy lifestyles, students can explain the importance of healthy food, physical activity, and good habits. Video retelling develops both comprehension and speaking skills because students must understand the material before presenting it orally.The use of educational videos can significantly increase students' motivation. Traditional speaking lessons sometimes become repetitive when students are required to answer textbook questions or memorize dialogues. Videos introduce interesting topics, real-life situations, and different forms of communication. Students can choose videos according to their interests, such as sports, technology, travel, education, music, science, and culture. When learning materials are connected with students' personal interests, they are more likely to participate actively and continue practicing outside the classroom.

Another important aspect of educational videos is their contribution to developing students' confidence. Many learners are afraid of making mistakes when speaking a foreign language, especially in front of their classmates. Watching videos and practicing independently can help them prepare before participating in classroom discussions. Students can repeat sentences, record their own voices, and compare their performance with the original speaker. Gradually, they become more comfortable expressing their ideas and participating in conversations. Teachers should create a supportive environment where mistakes are considered a natural part of the learning process.Teachers play an important role in integrating educational videos into the classroom. They should select materials according to students' ages, language levels, interests, and learning objectives. A video should not be too difficult or too long because students may lose concentration or fail to understand its content. Teachers can divide the lesson into three stages: pre-viewing, while-viewing, and post-viewing activities. Before watching, students can discuss the topic and learn important vocabulary. During the video, they can complete listening tasks, identify key information, or answer specific questions. After watching, they can participate in discussions, retell the content, perform dialogues, or give short presentations. This structured approach ensures that videos are used as active learning materials.Educational videos are also useful for developing communicative competence. Communicative competence involves not only knowing grammatical rules and vocabulary but also understanding how to use language appropriately in different situations. Videos show how people greet each other, ask questions, express agreement or disagreement, make requests, apologize, and respond politely. These examples help students understand the social and cultural aspects of communication. By observing authentic conversations, learners can develop a better understanding of appropriate language use.In addition, educational videos encourage independent learning outside the classroom. Students can access online resources whenever they have free time and practice speaking according to their

individual needs. They can create personal learning schedules, select suitable videos, and repeat difficult sections as many times as necessary. For example, learners may watch one short English video every day and spend ten minutes repeating sentences or summarizing the content. Regular practice can gradually improve their speaking abilities and increase their confidence.Despite these advantages, there are some challenges associated with using educational videos. One common problem is passive learning. Some students watch videos without repeating sentences, answering questions, or practicing speaking. In such cases, watching alone may not lead to significant improvement in oral communication. Another problem is the inappropriate selection of video materials. Videos that contain difficult vocabulary, fast speech, or complicated topics may discourage beginners. Technical problems, such as poor internet connections and limited access to devices, can also affect the learning process. Therefore, teachers should choose appropriate videos and combine them with practical speaking activities.

Conclusion: In conclusion, educational videos play an important role in developing speaking skills and improving the overall effectiveness of foreign language learning. Modern digital technologies have made it possible for students to access various educational materials that support language development both inside and outside the classroom. Videos provide authentic examples of spoken language and help learners become familiar with pronunciation, intonation, vocabulary, grammatical structures, and natural communication patterns. Through regular exposure to spoken English, students can gradually improve their ability to understand and express ideas in different situations.One of the most significant advantages of educational videos is their contribution to speaking fluency and pronunciation. By listening to native speakers, repeating sentences, imitating expressions, and practicing dialogues, learners can develop more natural speech. Activities such as shadowing, video retelling, role-playing, dubbing, and oral presentations provide opportunities for students to use newly acquired language actively. These methods also help learners overcome the fear of making mistakes and increase their confidence when communicating in English.Furthermore, educational videos make lessons more interesting, interactive, and motivating. Students can explore different topics, learn about other cultures, and improve their communication abilities through authentic materials. Platforms such as YouTube, TED Talks, and BBC Learning English offer a wide range of resources suitable for different language levels and educational purposes. These platforms also encourage independent learning because students can study at their own pace and repeat difficult materials whenever necessary.

However, the successful use of educational videos requires careful planning and appropriate guidance. Simply watching videos is not enough to develop speaking skills. Students must actively participate in speaking activities, discuss the content, answer questions, repeat sentences, and express their personal opinions. Teachers should select suitable materials, organize meaningful tasks, and provide constructive feedback. It is also important to balance video-based learning with traditional teaching methods and real communication practice.To sum up, educational videos are not merely technological materials used to make lessons more

attractive; they are valuable educational resources that can significantly support the development of oral communication. Their systematic and purposeful use can help students become more fluent, confident, independent, and effective English speakers. Therefore, integrating educational videos into foreign language teaching is an effective approach to improving speaking skills and preparing learners for successful communication in the modern world.

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