



ROLE OF LANGUAGE LAB IN LEARNING ENGLISH

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ABSTRACT

Language is a medium of communication. Communication implies carrying of message or receiving of message. Students from various cultures feel hard to learn English and its proficiency. The language lab is a technological tool for learning skills in English. The language lab offers an exclusive result oriented and efficient learning process. This method includes rich teaching material and motivates student's learning attitude, provide an interactive learning environment. In present study impact of language lab on learning of English language is observed.

INTRODUCTION

Language is the key to all types of progress and development that can be made by an individual as a social being. English language makes the people to know what is happening around the world and commonly used in many fields. Language laboratory equipped with audio-visual instruments used in modern teaching methods of languages. It helps the students to learn pronunciation and aids self-examination and self-correction. Emphasis is on listening and speaking. It aims at correct pronunciation, intonation and accent and also the use of words, structures and idioms correctly.

In language lab, language has to be heard, practiced and corrected. To acquire the sensitivity for the sounds and rhythm of a language, one has to hear the best samples of the spoken language and practice sessions to acquire the language skill. It is a class room in which students practice language sounds and sentence patterns individually under supervision of a learned teacher with the aid of audio equipment. Individual differences are taken into account. Several activities are given to the students as lab exercises. This includes learning of production of a sound, use of words and phrases, comprehension exercises meaningful drills, phonetic drill, and problem solving are done more effectively at a language lab. The learners can listen to the taped material on pronunciation, stress, intonation and rhythm in speech or conversation.

A language laboratory is arranged to make any language learning more effective. Language Laboratory is utilized for development of skills of listening and speaking, corrected pronunciation. The establishment of a language laboratory is quite uncommon in our schools or even in colleges. Like science and technical subjects, language is also a skilled subject. It needs the development of four basic skills namely hearing or listening, speaking, reading and writing of a language. Practice material, exercises are carefully produced by experts and are recorded for learners' practice. In language labs, the learner can work at his own pace. He can repeat his text any number of times till he is satisfied with his speech. He can select any material according to his level, need or interest. The language lab exercises are to be designed differently for each level of instruction.

A language laboratory is equipped with electronic devices to aid second language acquisition. Now-a-days language laboratories are set in computer rooms. The hearing booths, console and control room are the main components of a language lab. There are two types of language laboratory, the broadcast type and library type. Unlike the broadcast type, in the library type the learner has the opportunity for recording his own responses.

OBJECTIVE OF STUDY

To find value of learning before teaching through language lab

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HYPOTHESIS

There is no significant impact of language lab on learning

METHODOLOGY

Descriptive survey method was applied for present study. 50 students of class 11-12 were taken as sample. They were tested for English language with respect to reading, speaking, reading, writing and vocabulary using a self-prepared test paper. All students were taught English language through language lab. They were tested again using same test paper. Collected data was converted into percentage, tabulated and comparatively analyzed.

FINDING AND ANALYSIS

Table 1: Performance of Students in English Language before Language Lab Practice

Language Skill	No. of Students (%)				
	Above 80%	71-80%	61-70%	51-60%	Less than 50%
Listening	14	17	19	22	28
Speaking	9	11	14	19	47
Reading	10	12	16	21	41
Writing	9	13	15	19	44
Vocabulary	13	15	18	21	43

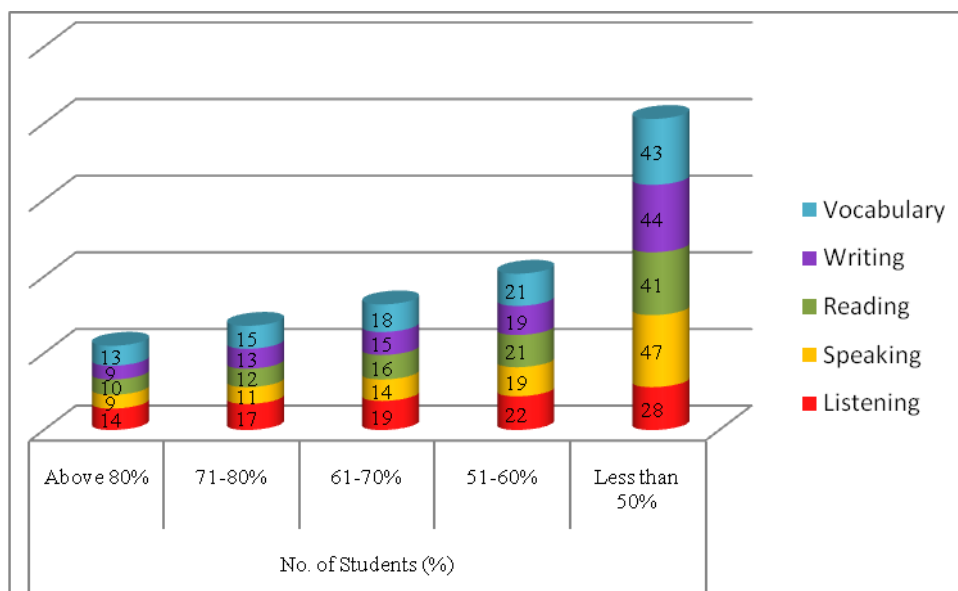


Chart 1: Performance of Students in English Language before Language Lab Practice

Table 2: Performance of Students after Language Lab Practice

Language Skill	Above 80%	71-80%	61-70%	51-60%	Less than 50%
Listening	17	19	22	25	17
Speaking	11	14	18	24	33
Reading	13	15	20	26	26
Writing	11	15	19	22	33
Vocabulary	14	17	21	23	25

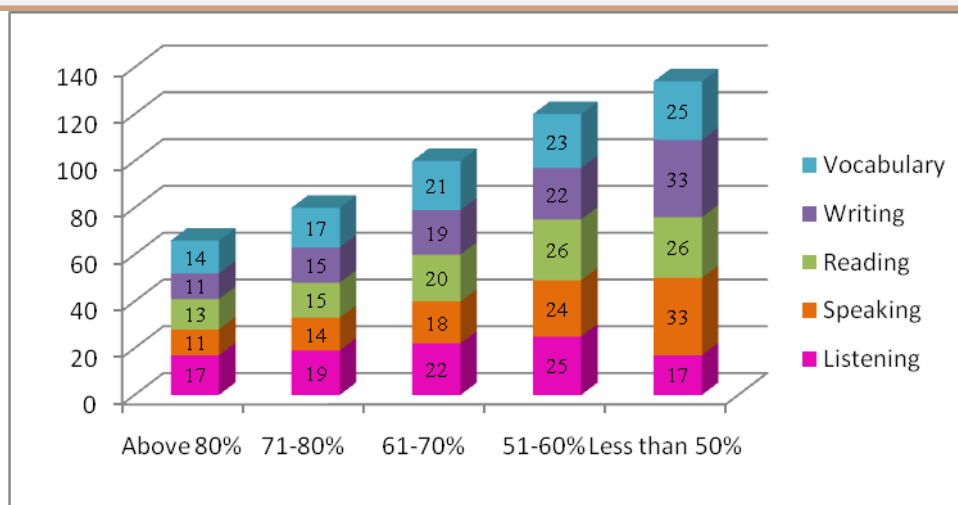


Chart 2: Performance of Students after Language Lab Practice

Comparison of data shows that language lab has important impact on learning. No. of English language learners increase with higher marks in every category after language lab practice. No. of learners in minimum marks category decreases. Thus, hypothesis there is no significant impact of language lab on learning is rejected.

CONCLUSION

The language lab is the effective medium to learn the English language. The quality of the language proficiency is more when they learn it from the multimedia, digital and computerized Language Lab rather than conventional method. By high merit of its unique equipment and its unambiguous pedagogy learning becomes easy and qualitative.

Language laboratories provide a proper platform to the learner and teacher in gaining useful experience for the development of essential proficiency. Both teachers and students can make use of language labs. It may help the teachers in a greater task of individualizing instruction according to the different learning styles and needs of their students.

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