



## TOOLS FOR ENHANCING LANGUAGE SKILLS IN THE CLASSROOM

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**Abstract:** *The current article aims at providing general information about integration of technology-based tools in language education. The article also discusses benefits of tools and gives a variety of examples that can be used in foreign language classes, depending on the language skills and explores the effectiveness of tools in enhancing student outcomes, self-improvement and digital literacy.*

**Key Words:** *technology-based tools, to record, interact, receive feedback, audio content, writing platform, explanations, virtual classroom, coherence;*

The integration of technology-based tools in language education has revolutionized the way teachers approach the development of speaking, listening, writing, and grammar skills. By leveraging a diverse array of digital resources, educators can create dynamic, engaging, and personalized learning experiences that cater to the diverse needs and preferences of their students.

The internet can be a rich source of authentic oral models via recorded songs, talking electronic books, podcasts and video clips that help learners with pronunciation as well as acquisition and reinforcement of new vocabulary and to improve all language skills. These tools can also help to support teachers who don't feel as confident with their own language skills. Technology also affords learners the opportunity to record themselves for playback at a later time. Learners report that the ability to listen and play back recordings helps identification of grammatical errors and inaccuracy in pronunciation, encouraging self-improvement. [1]

Learning a foreign language can be challenging, but incorporating tools into language classes can make the process more engaging and effective. Most researchers have shown that using tools in language learning can activate students' motivation to learn and help them better remember the language. Here are examples of the usage of some technology-based tools that can be used to improve language skills in the classes.

### Teaching Speaking Skills

Vocaroo: A user-friendly tool that allows students to record their spoken responses and share them with teachers for assessment and feedback.

8x8.vc: A video conferencing platform that facilitates real-time interaction, simulating a classroom environment for seamless speaking practice.

Flipgrid: A versatile tool that enables students to record video responses, interact with peers, and receive feedback from teachers, fostering speaking fluency and communication skills.

### Enhancing Listening Skills



Synth: An interactive podcast tool that engages students in dialogue and response activities, enhancing listening comprehension and communication.

Fluid Data: A resourceful tool for accessing a wide range of audio clips to practice listening and language comprehension skills through targeted searches.

Listen and Write: An app that challenges students to transcribe audio content, improving listening accuracy, vocabulary retention, and spelling proficiency.[2]

#### Developing Writing Skills

Grammarly: A popular writing assistant tool that provides grammar and spell-check features, enhancing students' writing accuracy and language proficiency.

Google Docs: A collaborative writing platform that allows real-time editing, peer feedback, and revision tracking, promoting effective writing practices and teamwork.

Hemingway Editor: A tool that analyzes writing for readability, sentence structure, and clarity, helping students refine their writing style and improve overall coherence.

#### Improving Grammar Skills

Quill: An interactive grammar tool that offers personalized grammar lessons, practice exercises, and instant feedback to enhance students' grammar proficiency.

Grammarly: In addition to its writing assistance, Grammarly provides grammar suggestions and explanations, aiding students in mastering grammar rules and conventions.

NoRedInk: A platform that offers adaptive grammar exercises tailored to students' skill levels, reinforcing grammar concepts through engaging practice activities. [3]

Incorporating these tools into language instruction not only enriches the learning experience but also empowers students to develop essential language skills effectively. By leveraging technology to enhance speaking, listening, writing, and grammar proficiency, educators can create engaging and interactive learning environments that foster language fluency and proficiency among students.

From interactive video platforms like Flipgrid and Nearpod to collaborative writing tools such as Google Docs and Grammarly, the range of available technologies empowers teachers to foster active engagement, provide timely feedback, and facilitate meaningful practice opportunities. These tools not only enhance language proficiency but also cultivate essential 21st-century skills, including critical thinking, problem-solving, and digital literacy.

Moreover, the adaptability of these technologies allows for seamless integration into both in-person and virtual classroom settings, ensuring that language learning remains accessible and effective, even in the face of evolving educational landscapes. By strategically incorporating these tools into their instructional repertoire, teachers can unlock the full potential of their students, equipping them with the linguistic competencies and digital fluency needed to thrive in an increasingly interconnected world.

To sum up, as the educational landscape continues to evolve, the judicious use of technology-based tools will undoubtedly remain a cornerstone of effective language instruction. By embracing these innovative resources, educators can foster a dynamic and enriching learning environment that empowers students to develop their language skills, explore new modes of expression, and cultivate the critical thinking abilities necessary for lifelong success.



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