

Effects of streaming platforms on the development of learning English as a Second Language

The widespread availability of streaming services and the ubiquity of mobile technology have revolutionized the viewing habits of young individuals worldwide. Despite this transformation in media consumption, the potential advantages of streaming platforms for second language (L2) learners have not been extensively examined. This research endeavours to investigate the effectiveness of streaming services in improving language skills and spoken fluency, particularly within the realm of English language acquisition.

Motivated by anecdotal evidence from English language learners attributing their linguistic progress to streaming platforms like Netflix, this study aims to delve into the integration of informal learning methods, such as streaming, into formal educational settings. Drawing upon seven years of teaching experience, I seek to explore how streaming services can be leveraged to augment traditional language teaching methodologies.

The primary objectives of this study are twofold: firstly, to scrutinize vocabulary acquisition and assess spoken fluency among second language learners; and secondly, to examine the impact of streaming platforms on language development. Thirteen Hungarian students were subject to a comprehensive evaluation over a span of 6 months, from April to September in 2023. Data was collected through a combination of observations, tests, and interviews, with input from English language instructors serving as a crucial component of the analysis.

Utilizing a mixed methods approach, this research amalgamates qualitative and quantitative data collection techniques. Longitudinal observations gleaned from my teaching experience are supplemented by vocabulary and spoken tests administered at regular intervals. Interviews encompass both general inquiries and role-playing exercises to measure vocabulary usage in context. Additionally, a questionnaire has been distributed to elucidate students' streaming habits, while interviews with current teachers have provided insights into the integration of streaming platforms into classroom instruction.

I aspire to discover the immense benefits of streaming services in second language acquisition. Additionally, I aim to inspire my fellow teachers and students to embrace these platforms more regularly for language learning in order to immerse themselves in the language in a more natural and enjoyable manner. I firmly believe that watching movies and series in the target language significantly contributes to second language development, and therefore, we should seize this opportunity routinely.

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