

## **Advantages of Multimodal Teaching in English Language Classes**

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**Abstract.** *This article provides detailed information on the advantages of multimodal teaching in English language classes. It analyzes the unique aspects of teaching through a multimodal approach that encompasses various learning styles of students, including its effectiveness in developing listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. The article also explores the additional value brought to the language learning process by using modern technologies, such as mobile apps, online courses, virtual reality, and augmented reality applications. Practical advice is also offered to teachers on how to effectively apply multimodal teaching methods. Highlighting the advantages and future opportunities of this approach in English language classes, the article emphasizes the role of multimodal teaching in enhancing the quality of education.*

**Key words:** *multimodal teaching, English language education, modern technologies, learning styles, interactive teaching, guidelines for teachers, language learning methods, virtual reality, pedagogical effectiveness.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Multimodal teaching is an approach aimed at enhancing the quality of education by integrating multiple communication tools and teaching methods into the learning process. This method ensures that learners with different learning styles are catered to, enabling them to acquire knowledge more deeply and effectively. One of the key concepts of multimodal teaching is integrated education that includes visual, auditory, kinesthetic, and textual materials. For example, by simultaneously using videos, infographics, interactive games, and textual materials in lessons, students can better understand and retain the subject matter.

The pedagogical foundations for applying multimodal methods in English language classes are designed to make language learning more effective. English language teachers can use a variety of tools to develop students' skills in listening, viewing, speaking, and writing. The multimodal approach enriches this process because it supports different learning styles and encourages students to actively participate in the language learning process. For example, videos, games, and role-playing activities used in the classroom engage students in English communication and simultaneously improve their listening and speaking skills.

Moreover, multimodal teaching can facilitate learning grammatical rules through presentations that include visual and textual content. "Complex concepts are explained more clearly with visual elements that are easy to understand and remember for students"<sup>1</sup>. Additionally, using technological tools such as internet resources and e-textbooks allows students to learn at their own pace and in their own time, which helps develop their independent learning skills.

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<sup>1</sup> Thompson M. Multimodal teaching and learning: Creating spaces for content teachers //Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy. – 2008. – T. 52. – №. 2. – C. 144-153.

Overall, multimodal teaching methods help make English classes more interactive and engaging, which increases students' interest in language learning and enables them to develop their language skills effectively. This approach also plays an important role in increasing students' motivation for language learning because it ensures adaptability to various learning styles and supports students in applying their knowledge in practice.

Multimodal teaching employs various educational materials, each with its unique features that enrich the learning process. These materials include textual sources, visual content, audio and video materials, as well as technological tools like interactive games and e-textbooks. Textual sources, such as textbooks and articles, provide students with deeper knowledge, which helps develop independent reading and analytical skills. Visual materials, including diagrams, graphs, and photographs, facilitate students' understanding of the topic by visualizing complex concepts.

Audio materials, such as listening exercises, help students learn correct pronunciation, which improves their listening skills. Video materials allow for the expansion of lesson topics and the demonstration of practical examples, making it easier for students to remember new information. Interactive games and simulations encourage active participation from students and allow them to apply the concepts being learned in practice. E-textbooks and online resources provide students with the opportunity to manage their own learning process, helping them to acquire knowledge at their own pace and in their own time.

The impact of multimodal teaching on students' comprehension abilities is significant<sup>2</sup>. This method ensures that students gain a deeper understanding of the subject and develop their skills by using various communication channels. Information presented through a multimodal approach is repeated in different forms, aiding students in assimilating new knowledge. For instance, when a topic is studied through text, images, and video, students have the opportunity to consider the concepts in different contexts, leading to a deeper understanding. Additionally, multimodal teaching helps maintain students' attention for longer periods since materials in different formats stimulate the student's interest and make the learning process more engaging.

As a result, multimodal teaching improves how students perceive the subject matter, enhances their ability to retain knowledge, and makes the learning process more effective and engaging. This approach enables students to independently develop their knowledge and acquire new skills, which improves their overall learning abilities. Multimodal teaching also teaches students to adapt to various learning methods, which plays an important role in their future education and professional activities.

The multimodal approach significantly increases students' motivation to learn a language because it makes education more engaging and interactive. Through this method, learners study the subject in various forms—audio, video, text, and interactive activities—which stimulates their interest in learning and makes lessons more enjoyable. The multimodal approach also expands the opportunities for students to support and reinforce their knowledge. For example, interactive games and communicative activities used in language learning encourage active participation, develop students' self-assessment skills, and increase their motivation to work on themselves.

Modern technologies, including mobile apps, learning platforms, and online courses, effectively support multimodal teaching in English classes. Mobile apps, such as Duolingo or Babbel, allow students to learn a language anytime and anywhere, making their learning process flexible and convenient. At the same time, these apps provide various learning materials, such as games to enhance vocabulary, grammar exercises, and communicative scenarios for language practice.

Online learning platforms like Coursera and EdX offer English courses to students of various levels. These platforms include multimodal content, such as video lessons, interactive quizzes, and opportunities for communication through forums. By utilizing these resources, students can independently enrich their knowledge and connect with a global community of learners<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> Philippe S. et al. Multimodal teaching, learning and training in virtual reality: a review and case study //Virtual Reality & Intelligent Hardware. – 2020. – T. 2. – №. 5. – C. 421-442.

<sup>3</sup> Jewitt C. Multimodal teaching and learning //The encyclopedia of applied linguistics. – 2012.

Additionally, virtual and augmented reality applications help make English language lessons more interactive and exciting. For example, through VR (Virtual Reality) technologies, students can "travel" to virtual environments that require communication in English. Such technologies provide students with real-time language practice and experience in using the language in a natural setting.

Multimodal teaching plays an important role in developing speaking skills because it offers students the opportunity to receive and express information in various forms. Using audio and video materials in learning speaking skills creates opportunities for students to hear and see the language in a natural context. For instance, through videos, students observe different language models, which helps them improve their pronunciation and intonation. Additionally, role-playing and communicative exercises used in multimodal teaching encourage students to produce speech, enhancing their ability to express themselves clearly and fluently in English.

This approach also improves students' reading and writing skills. By combining multimodal materials, including textual content and visual information, students develop skills in analyzing texts and understanding them more deeply<sup>4</sup>. For example, images or diagrams provided alongside texts help students better understand the topic and ensure they can apply these concepts in their written work. Moreover, interactive elements used in the multimodal approach, such as online quizzes and topic-related forums, encourage students to test their knowledge and prepare written responses that reinforce new concepts.

Content presented through visual materials and interactive technologies encourages students to actively participate in discussions on the subject, which enhances their analytical thinking and critical evaluation skills. These skills, in turn, improve students' writing abilities, as they develop the capacity to express their thoughts clearly and logically in written form. Furthermore, during multimodal lessons, students can expand the evidence they use in their writing by processing and synthesizing information from various sources.

Significant results have been observed in learning listening and speaking skills through multimodal methods. The materials provided through these methods, such as audio and video lessons, create opportunities for students to hear the language in a natural context and apply it, significantly improving their listening abilities. Conversations and dialogues shown in video materials allow students to listen to various language models and analyze them, and they also play an important role in helping students improve their own speaking skills. Through these materials, students learn how to apply the language in practice, which greatly enhances their ability to use the language effectively.

The impact of multimodal teaching on students of different ages can vary. For younger learners, lessons presented through multimodal materials, such as interactive games and animations, make the learning process fun and engaging, helping to maintain their attention for longer periods. For students in this age group, the multimodal approach turns learning into a playful experience, making it easier for them to absorb new information. For teenagers and adults, multimodal teaching, through role-playing and discussions in real-life situations, helps develop their ability to express their thoughts clearly and fluently in English. Critical thinking exercises presented through multimodal materials enhance the analytical skills of learners in this age group and increase their interest in independent learning.

The results observed in learning listening and speaking skills through multimodal methods significantly improve the quality of education and broaden students' language learning abilities. The difference in impact on students of different ages allows for a more effective and purposeful learning process by applying these methods according to age. Multimodal teaching offers an engaging and interactive learning experience suitable for each age group, which helps consolidate the knowledge acquired by students in the language learning process and develop new skills.

Multimodal teaching may present various challenges for English language teachers. Firstly, this approach requires working with different technologies and materials, which demands technological

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<sup>4</sup> Papageorgiou V., Lameris P. Multimodal Teaching and Learning with the Use of Technology: Meanings, Practices and Discourses //International Association for Development of the Information Society. – 2017.

skills and a significant amount of time from teachers. Teachers need to develop skills in selecting and using the necessary multimedia tools effectively. Additionally, coordinating and applying various teaching methods in the classroom, especially in large classes, adds extra organizational and pedagogical burdens on teachers.

Several methods are used to measure the effectiveness of multimodal teaching. Typically, this process is carried out by evaluating students' activity in the lesson, how deeply they have understood the topic, and their reactions to the educational materials. For example, traditional and modern metrics, such as student participation during lessons, the quality of homework, and post-lesson test results, can be used. In addition, students' self-assessments and teachers' observations also play an important role in understanding the impact of multimodal teaching.

In the future, the development of multimodal approaches in English language lessons is expected to involve the use of technological innovations. For example, using artificial intelligence and learning algorithms could allow lesson materials to be tailored to students' individual learning needs. Moreover, the development of virtual and augmented reality technologies may offer more immersive experiences in learning English. These technologies could create a language environment by organizing "virtual trips" to English-speaking countries for students. Furthermore, it is essential to enhance support and training systems for teachers in developing and using multimodal materials more effectively to make this approach more efficient. These changes will provide teachers with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively apply new technologies and pedagogical approaches, helping to increase the effectiveness of English language teaching in the future.

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