The Influence of Multimedia Teaching on the English Proficiency of College Students

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Abstract: With the continuous development of information technology, multimedia teaching has become an important means in college English teaching. The purpose of this paper is to explore the influence of multimedia teaching on college students' English listening, speaking, reading and writing, as well as the common problems in multimedia teaching application and suggestions for improvement. Through analyzing the existing literature and empirical research, this paper finds that multimedia teaching has significant advantages in improving students' English listening, speaking, reading and writing abilities. The rich audio-visual materials and interactivity provided by multimedia teaching strengthen the frequency and quality of language input and output, and thus improve the comprehensive language application ability of students. There are also some problems and challenges in multimedia teaching, such as the limitations of equipment conditions and the requirements of teachers' professional quality. Therefore, in order to give full play to the advantages of multimedia teaching, it is necessary to strengthen teacher training, update teaching concepts and improve teaching facilities. In short, multimedia teaching plays an important role in improving the English level of college students, and is worthy of wider application and development in college English teaching.

Keywords: Multimedia Teaching, College Students, English Teaching, English Learning, Teaching Effect

1. Introduction

With the rapid development of information technology and Internet, multimedia technology has also developed rapidly. Multimedia technology is a branch of information technology. Information technology provides the foundation and tools for the application of multimedia technology, and multimedia technology is a concrete application form of information technology in the real world. Multimedia technology focuses on the computer to text, data, graphics, images, animation, sound and other media information integrated processing and management. The purpose of this technology is to achieve real-time information interaction between users and computers through multiple senses.

Multimedia technology has greatly enriched the form of information dissemination, improved the interactivity, enhanced the effect of education, entertainment and marketing, and had a revolutionary impact in many fields such as intelligent technology and data analysis. In the field of education, multimedia technology has gradually penetrated into classroom teaching and become an important tool for teacher-student communication and interaction.

Multimedia teaching refers to the process of teaching, according to the different teaching objectives and teaching objects, reasonable selection and use of modern teaching equipment, and combined with traditional teaching methods to complete the whole teaching process. Yan Yang's research shows that the use of multimedia in teaching can enhance students' interest in learning, such as the use of audio and video to stimulate students' audio-visual senses [1]. Ade Muslimat et al.'s research also shows that teachers' evaluation of multimedia teaching experience is positive [2].

English plays a key role in global communication, education, technology, business and culture. To promote economic, scientific and technological development. English education is highly valued in China, and the Chinese government has invested a lot of resources to improve the national English level. Due to the large population and large number of examinees in China, the education model has been
showing the phenomenon of "exam-oriented education". Therefore, on the whole, college students have the tendency of exam-oriented education, and their listening and speaking abilities generally need to be strengthened. Moreover, there are obvious differences in English proficiency among students. This paper aims to study the influence of multimedia teaching on college students' English proficiency and explore effective methods and strategies, hoping to promote the balanced development of college students' English comprehensive ability.

2. Overview of multimedia teaching

Multimedia teaching is a modern teaching method that uses computer or other electronic equipment to integrate text, image, sound, video and other media information and display and interact through software platforms[3]. It allows teachers and students to realize multi-dimensional information exchange in the teaching process, breaking the limitations of traditional blackboard and textbook, and providing more rich and dynamic learning materials. Multimedia teaching helps to enhance students' learning interest and memory effect through the stimulation of multiple senses such as vision and hearing. Meanwhile, its interactive nature also promotes students' active participation and personalized learning ability. In addition, it also supports the immediate update and adjustment of teaching content, making education more flexible and efficient. With the continuous development of educational technology, this teaching method has been popularized and has gradually become an important part of the modern education system.

The main difference between multimedia teaching and traditional teaching lies in the diversity and interaction of information transmission methods[4]. Traditional teaching mainly relies on books, blackboards and teachers, while multimedia teaching integrates text, images, sound, video and other forms of information through computers and other electronic devices to provide a rich audio-visual learning experience. The advantage of multimedia teaching is that it can meet the sensory needs of different learners and stimulate their interest in learning. Its hypertext and hypermedia technology make the knowledge structure nonlinear display, more in line with the human cognitive law; Interactive, can achieve instant feedback and personalized learning path; At the same time, it also has the characteristics of time flexibility and space infinity, teaching resources can be reused, suitable for independent learning and distance education.

In general, multimedia teaching breaks through the limitations of traditional teaching, enhances the effectiveness and interest of education with technical means, and is an important result of the development of modern educational technology.

3. The Influence of multimedia teaching on the English proficiency of college students

3.1. Listening Proficiency

Multimedia teaching has a positive impact on the English listening level of college students. Multimedia teaching can effectively enhance the English listening level and learning interest of college students by providing diverse audio resources, simulating language environments, and engaging in interactive exercises[5].

Firstly, multimedia technology can provide a rich and diverse range of listening materials, including audio, video, etc. These materials usually cover various topics, accents, and speaking speeds, helping students to be exposed to a wider language environment, thereby improving their understanding of different English accents and speaking habits. Secondly, the interactivity of multimedia teaching can greatly enhance student participation. Through interactive exercises, such as conducting classroom simulation tests and providing immediate feedback to students, students can receive immediate feedback on their performance while completing tasks. This timely positive motivation can encourage students to actively participate in listening training, thereby improving their learning efficiency. Furthermore, multimedia teaching can also enhance students' language comprehension ability through visual assistance. Visual materials such as charts, images, and subtitles can help students better capture and understand the information they hear, especially when dealing with complex or abstract concepts, the role of visual aids is particularly evident.

In addition, multimedia teaching can also simulate real-life English communication environments, such as through video conferences, online interviews, etc., allowing students to practice listening in similar real-life situations, which helps improve their practical application abilities and communication
efficiency. The convenience and flexibility of multimedia resources also enable students to learn independently according to their own time and progress, which is of great significance for cultivating their self-learning ability and lifelong learning ability.

3.2. Oral Proficiency

The impact of multimedia teaching on students' English oral expression, pronunciation accuracy, and oral fluency is significant. The application of multimedia teaching is of great help to students in learning English speaking, including improving their speaking ability, increasing their interest in learning, enhancing their confidence, alleviating learning anxiety, and establishing a good learning mode.[6]

Firstly, multimedia teaching can provide a large number of pronunciation demonstrations through audio and video materials, helping students listen to and imitate standard pronunciation, gradually correcting their pronunciation errors and improving pronunciation accuracy. Secondly, diverse audio-visual materials in multimedia teaching can stimulate students' interest in learning and increase their participation. When students are interested in learning content, they are more willing to take the initiative to practice, and this positive attitude is crucial for improving their oral skills. At the same time, the diversity of multimedia materials also ensures that students can find suitable exercise content in various topics and situations, which helps them to be more confident and fluent in practical communication.

Some multimedia software also has speech recognition function and can provide AI interactive exercises, which can help students correct their pronunciation and improve their thinking agility and language proficiency.

3.3. Reading Proficiency

Most Chinese students face problems in reading comprehension due to insufficient vocabulary, inadequate understanding of words, and insufficient understanding of English cultural background knowledge. Using multimedia for teaching can effectively help solve this problem. Multimedia teaching technology has a significant positive impact on students' reading comprehension, vocabulary, and reading speed.[7]

Firstly, multimedia teaching can help students better understand and absorb new knowledge, especially when understanding abstract concepts and complex situations, by presenting various forms of materials such as text, images, sound, and video in front of them. Secondly, multimedia materials are usually designed to be more vivid and interesting, which can stimulate students' reading interest and increase their reading motivation. In addition, the interactivity and instant feedback mechanism in multimedia classroom teaching can help students quickly identify and correct comprehension errors during the reading process, thereby improving their reading comprehension ability. Meanwhile, rich multimedia content can also expand students' vocabulary, as they need to understand and use new vocabulary to express their ideas. Finally, as the reading volume increases and vocabulary expands, students' reading speed will also correspondingly improve, as they become more confident and proficient in reading. In summary, multimedia teaching effectively promotes the improvement of students' reading skills by providing diverse reading materials and interactive environments.

3.4. Writing Proficiency

In Xiangying Cao's research, he made significant progress in class students by designing experimental courses that combine multimedia technology with blended teaching methods. In the experimental class, students who were originally not interested in English writing developed an interest and enthusiasm for English writing. This study also showed that after using multimedia technology for English teaching, students' English writing scores improved[8].

The reason why multimedia teaching methods have a positive impact on the English writing level of college students is that by introducing images, videos, audio, and interactive tools, multimedia teaching methods can significantly enhance students' interest and participation in writing. Firstly, multimedia teaching provides rich reading materials, including online articles, e-books, and case studies, which can expand students' vocabulary and understanding, providing more inspiration and materials for writing. Secondly, by using images, charts, and structural diagrams, students can better organize their thinking and design logically clear and structurally reasonable chapters. In addition, multimedia teaching technology has also promoted interactive learning. If using an online education platform, students can publish their writing articles through the platform and receive immediate feedback from classmates and
teachers. This timely communication and editing process helps to improve writing skills and expression abilities.

Overall, multimedia teaching methods effectively promote the improvement of English writing skills among college students by providing diverse learning resources and timely feedback.

4. Analysis and suggestions on the problems in multimedia teaching

4.1. Multimedia devices

Multimedia equipment is an important tool for achieving multimedia teaching. Without modern equipment, multimedia teaching cannot be achieved. For example, computers, projectors, audio equipment, video recorders, etc. are all important devices for achieving multimedia teaching. These devices can present teaching content to students in various forms, enabling them to understand and master knowledge more intuitively and vividly. In addition, the quality and performance of the equipment directly affect the effectiveness of multimedia teaching. If the quality of the equipment is poor or the performance is unstable, it will affect the smooth progress of teaching and may even lead to teaching interruption. Therefore, ensuring the quality and performance of the equipment is the key to implementing multimedia teaching.

Multimedia devices in different regions may vary, generally related to economic level, education investment, and technical support. In economically developed areas, schools are usually equipped with advanced multimedia teaching equipment, such as smart blackboards, high-definition projectors, etc.; In economically underdeveloped areas, schools may only have basic multimedia equipment, such as traditional projectors and computers. To improve this situation, the following measures can be taken: firstly, increase investment in education, provide financial support for schools in economically underdeveloped areas, update and improve multimedia equipment; The second is to provide technical support and training to help teachers master the usage and maintenance skills of multimedia equipment; The third is to encourage social forces to participate and provide multimedia equipment to schools through donations and other forms. This can ensure that students from all regions can enjoy high-quality multimedia teaching.

4.2. Teaching Methods and Teacher Competence

The level and application methods of teachers have a direct and significant impact on the effectiveness of multimedia teaching. Firstly, the professional level of teachers determines their grasp and understanding of textbook content, which not only affects the accuracy and depth of teaching content, but also affects how they effectively utilize multimedia tools to assist teaching. A teacher who is proficient in using multimedia technology can create a more vivid and intuitive teaching environment, enhance students' interest and participation in learning. Secondly, the multimedia technology ability of teachers directly affects the implementation and quality of multimedia teaching. If teachers are familiar with the operation of various multimedia tools and can quickly solve technical problems, the teaching process will be smoother, reducing classroom interruptions caused by technical failures, and thus improving teaching efficiency.

Therefore, the innovative consciousness and continuous learning ability of teachers are also key factors in improving the quality of multimedia teaching. Teachers need to constantly explore and try new multimedia teaching methods and tools to maintain the freshness and attractiveness of teaching, while also paying attention to the latest developments in educational technology and continuously improving their technical level.

Therefore, enhancing the professional competence and technical ability of teachers, encouraging them to adopt innovative teaching methods, is an important way to improve the quality of multimedia teaching. At the same time, schools and educational institutions should also provide necessary technical support and training for teachers to ensure that they can effectively use multimedia tools for teaching.

4.3. Student Acceptance and Differentiation

The personal interests and learning styles of students are important factors that affect their acceptance of multimedia teaching. Some students may prefer to obtain information through visual or auditory means, while others prefer traditional ways of learning text. Therefore, for students who are interested in
multimedia teaching, they may be more actively involved in it, thereby achieving better learning outcomes; For students who are not very interested, they may feel confused or uncomfortable, which can affect their learning outcomes. Additionally, differences in students' English proficiency can also affect the effectiveness of multimedia teaching.

Therefore, in multimedia teaching, teachers need to adopt various strategies and methods to address the differences in students' English proficiency. Through graded teaching, personalized learning, collaborative learning, and timely feedback, teachers can ensure that every student can obtain the maximum benefits from multimedia teaching.

5. Conclusions

In the context of the rapid development of information technology today, multimedia teaching has become an indispensable part of college English education. This study aims to explore the specific effects of multimedia technology teaching on four aspects of English listening, speaking, reading, and writing for college students. The study found that multimedia teaching significantly improves students' comprehensive English listening, speaking, reading, and writing abilities. Firstly, multimedia teaching can provide rich language input, helping students to be exposed to real language environments, thereby improving their listening and reading comprehension abilities. Secondly, multimedia technology can provide students with a platform to simulate real-life communication situations, promoting their oral expression and communication abilities. In addition, multimedia teaching can also help students improve their writing skills and language expression abilities by providing personalized feedback and support. Simultaneously utilizing multimedia technology in teaching can significantly enhance students' interest and initiative in learning English.

This article also lists three common issues in the implementation of multimedia teaching: equipment resources, differences in teacher abilities, and differences in student proficiency, and provides certain suggestions. At the end of the paper, it is proposed that in order to fully leverage the advantages of multimedia teaching, it is necessary to strengthen professional training for teachers, update teaching facilities, and enrich and optimize teaching content. In short, multimedia teaching is an effective tool for improving the English proficiency of college students and is of great significance in promoting the modernization and diversification of teaching methods.

References