

## **Podcasting: A Modern Tool in Education System**

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### **Abstract**

Language teaching cannot be the same as it was thirty, twenty or ten years ago. The powerful information and communication technologies available have opened up new social and educational opportunities, creating new needs and requiring the development of new skill. The paper discuss about “podcast”. The term ‘podcast’ is a portmanteau of the words “pod” and “broadcast” according to wiki, and it refers to the use of an iPod for purposes of recording and broadcasting any material. A podcast is a form of digital media that consists of an episodic series of audio, video, digital radio, PDF, or ePub files subscribed to and downloaded through web syndication or streamed online to a computer or mobile device. Audio has been utilized in higher education for many decades. Additional uses of instructor-created podcasts include lecture summaries or supplemental course information.

**Keywords:** Podcasting, digital media, instructor-created podcasts, language teaching

### **Podcasting: A Modern Tool in Education System**

A well-balanced curriculum with English language and the use of the spoken language in the additional language classrooms would provide the learners with the tool to develop linguistic, cognitive and literary goals of the additional language classroom. The teachers of English need to develop appropriate methods and materials for the learners.

Teaching is a dynamic and well planned process to acquire maximum learning experience. Effective teaching is based on three ways. First one is instructional objectives, second is learning experiences. It is based on the content analysis and the selection of appropriate methodology. The third one is learners’ output. In the present world of advanced technology, a similar one can be established with computer application.

Language teaching cannot be the same as it was thirty, twenty or ten years ago. The powerful information and communication technologies available have opened up new social and educational opportunities, creating new needs and requiring the development of new skill. In order to prepare students to function in the digital age, one must ensure that language instruction takes advantage of the online environment with its rich resources and varied media and that the language curriculum incorporates the necessary digital literacy skills.

The paper discusses the method “podcast”. The term ‘podcast’ is a portmanteau of the words “pod” and “broadcast” according to wiki, and it refers to the use of an iPod for purposes of recording and broadcasting any material. A podcast is a form of digital media that consists of an episodic series of audio, video, digital radio, PDF, or ePub files subscribed to and downloaded through web syndication or streamed online to a computer or mobile device. The users can download the audio material in the internet. Then they play or listen to it on your computer or on an MP3 player or portable music player (iPod).

### **Podcasting**

Podcasting is becoming a tool for the distribution of school lessons. It is education and has the potential to evolve rapidly. Students use their tech- based entertainment systems for educational purposes. These methods help to move away from traditional training like face-to-face training chalk and talk method. Podcasting method is very effective in any learning process. Students and teachers can share information with anyone at any time. An absent student can easily download the lesson. Of course the student does not miss the lecture. Teachers also can record discussions, vocabulary and other lessons, interviews and debates. Students can create a record of activities, their thoughts and point of view on certain topics of interest. Podcasting can be a publishing tool for oral presentation. This need not be limited to audio alone, but can be produced also as video podcasts. The use of videos is referred to as “Vodcasting”

### **Three Popular Indian Podcasters**

Following the trend set by the Stanford and Berkeley Universities, Welingkar Institute of Management, a Mumbai-based business school, is planning to record lectures and make

them available to its students over iTunes. There are three popular Indian podcasters

1) Indicast 2) Kamala Bhatt 3) Podmasti.

### **Online Media**

“The development of literacy and communication skills in new online media is critical to success in almost all works of life” (Shetzer and Warschauer 1999:171). The most common use of podcasts in higher education is creating audio archives of classroom lectures. This use of podcasting is termed lecture webcasting or course-casting. Some students find that being able to connect with course materials while travelling is of great help.

### **Instructor-Created Podcasts**

Audio has been utilized in higher education for many decades. Additional uses of instructor-created podcasts include lecture summaries or supplemental course information. Students reported great value in having the audio files to pause, rewind and listen to difficult material several times. Miller (2006) at the Connecticut uses podcasts for a post-lecture discussion with students (see <http://web2.uconn.edu/millerd/icube.html>). For his introductory level general psychology course his podcast series is termed “icube: Issues in Intro”. The student podcasts listeners who are not involved with the recordings still report a greater sense of connection with the class and content.

Frydenberg (2008) noticed that a majority of his students were not listening to the 60 minute podcasts that he created after each lecture. A student survey showed that his student performed a much shorter review of each lecture. The instructor then challenged the student to work in pairs and create six to ten minute video podcasts that shared something they learned during the previous class session.

### **Conclusion**

University of Dayton’s CIO Thomas skills comments that, “Podcasting has a very relevant application in higher education but it needs to be carefully integrated into the curriculum in a thoughtful way”. (Blaisdell, 2006, p.4) Universities and other Organizations of higher education are facing increased pressure to demonstrate the effectiveness of their educational efforts. There can be no denying the fact that the use of technology, especially podcasting, can greatly enhance the teaching learning process. Thus, the technophobic people

should necessarily change their mind set and move with the changing times. So, the use of podcasting for language learning has potential to enhance the techniques.

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