

EXPLORING LANGUAGE LEARNING APPS: A FOCUS ON DUOLINGO, LINGO KIDS, AND BUDDY.AI FOR ENHANCED ENGLISH ACQUISITION

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Abstract: *The article aims to give a brief overview of the use of innovative technologies and modern methods in pedagogy. This study investigates the effectiveness of e-learning tools in teaching English to students. It explores the efficacy of Duolingo, Lingo Kids, and Buddy.AI in enhancing English language proficiency. Through a literature review, we explore the pedagogical approaches and empirical evidence supporting the efficacy of these apps. Duolingo's gamified platform offers personalized learning experiences for users of all ages, maintaining engagement and motivation. Lingo Kids targets young learners with interactive games and storytelling features, fostering early English language development. Buddy.ai utilizes AI technology to provide personalized feedback, particularly focusing on conversational English practice. Drawing on existing research, we highlight the strengths and potential of each app in improving English proficiency. Future research directions and implications for language learners and educators are discussed.*

Keywords: *apps, Duolingo, Lingo Kids, Buddy.AI, teaching methods, effectiveness, e-learning, language learning, flexibility, gamification.*

Annotatsiya: *Maqolada innovatsion texnologiyalar va zamonaviy metodlarni pedagogikada qo'llash haqida qisqacha ma'lumot berilgan. Ushbu tadqiqot ingliz tilini o'qitishda elektron o'quv vositalarining samaradorligini tahlil qiladi. Duolingo, Lingo Kids va Buddy.AI ilovalari orqali ingliz tili bo'yicha bilimni oshirishda ularning samaradorligi o'rganiladi. Adabiyotlarni tahlil qilish orqali, ushbu ilovalarning pedagogik yondashuvlari va samaradorligini tasdiqlovchi empirik dalillar tadqiq etiladi. Duolingo'ning o'yin shaklidagi platformasi turli yoshdagi foydalanuvchilar uchun shaxsiylashtirilgan o'quv tajribasini taqdim etib, ularni qiziqtirish va motivatsiyani oshiradi. Lingo Kids interaktiv o'yinlar va hikoyalar funksiyalari bilan yosh o'quvchilarga mo'ljallangan bo'lib, ingliz tilini erta o'rganishga yordam beradi. Buddy.AI esa sun'iy intellekt texnologiyasidan foydalangan holda, shaxsiylashtirilgan fikr-mulohazalarni, ayniqsa, suhbatlashuv malakasini rivojlantirishga qaratilgan. Mavjud tadqiqotlardan kelib chiqib, har bir ilovaning ingliz tili bo'yicha bilimni yaxshilashdagi kuchli jihatlari va imkoniyatlari yoritib beriladi. Kelajakdagi tadqiqot yo'nalishlari hamda til o'rganuvchilar va o'qituvchilar uchun istiqbollari muhokama qilinadi.*

Kalit so'zlar: ilova, Duolingo, Lingo Kids, Buddy.AI, o'qitish metodlari, samaradorlik, elektron ta'lim, til o'rganish, moslashuvchanlik, o'yin shakli.

In today's world, proficiency in multiple languages is becoming increasingly valuable. Learning a new language opens doors to new opportunities and experiences, whether for academic, professional, or personal reasons. With the rise of technology, language learning has evolved beyond traditional methods, with language learning apps emerging as popular tools for learners of all ages. This article will delve into three prominent language-learning apps: Duolingo, Lingo Kids, and Buddy.AI, and assess their effectiveness in enhancing English acquisition.

Language learning apps have emerged as great assistants for both teachers and students. This study specifically focuses on language acquisition and recognizes the importance of these apps in providing personalized and engaging learning experiences. Learning apps are becoming ubiquitous in and out of the classroom. While the number of ESL learning apps has been increasing dramatically, not much information is available for teachers and learners to evaluate the quality of these apps [1].

Language learning apps are crucial in our interconnected world as they offer flexibility and accessibility. By examining Duolingo, Lingo Kids, and Buddy.AI, we can gain insights that can be beneficial.

The development of language learning apps reflects advancements in both technology and pedagogy as they strive to provide effective tools for learners. The assessment of their impact on language acquisition is guided by socio-constructivist theories.

Technology plays a role in facilitating access to language resources through mobile apps enabling independent learning anytime and anywhere. This research study takes an approach by using both qualitative case studies and quantitative data from surveys and usage analytics to evaluate how effective Duolingo, Lingo Kids, and Buddy.AI are in helping people learn languages.

Language learning apps have become popular due to their flexibility and accessibility, allowing people to learn anytime and anywhere, which is especially beneficial for those with busy schedules. One of the advantages of these apps is the integration of gamification elements, such as points and rewards, which make learning more engaging and motivating for users. The increased focus on XR, or immersive technologies, is due to the need to advance new and unique teaching-learning designs, pedagogies, and effects [2]. The introduction of Extended Reality

(XR) technology into learning institutions through gaming tools has revolutionized the learning of languages due to several attributes. Luo (2023) emphasized that XR has provided various technological options, including grammar checking, material storage, voice recording, and automated speech recognition [3]. However, other studies demonstrate the prevalence of mixed results associated with gaming tool applications for learning. While gamification contributes to improved emotional responses and students' attitudes, competition's technical difficulties and adverse implications reduce its relevance in learning languages [4].

Additionally, adaptive algorithms personalize the content according to needs and learning styles, ensuring a tailored learning experience. Real-time feedback helps with corrections in pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary. The inclusion of multimedia components like audio, video, and interactive exercises provides a comprehensive approach to language learning.

However, language learning apps do have some disadvantages. For instance, the lack of face-to-face interaction limits the aspect of language learning as there is no real-time interaction with other learners or native speakers. These apps may not fully immerse learners in the cultural context of the language they are studying.

The effectiveness of Duolingo lies in its approach, which utilizes points and rewards to motivate users. The user-friendly interface and incorporation of gamification elements help maintain engagement and create a sense of accomplishment. Additionally, Duolingo employs spaced repetition techniques and regular updates to enhance memory retention and continued engagement. It also adjusts the difficulty level, providing feedback for error correction.

Duolingo offers a learning experience by covering reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. However, some concerns revolve around learning and the limited depth of language knowledge. Nevertheless, the high user satisfaction indicates that Duolingo is accessible and has an impact.

Lingo Kids takes a child-centered approach by designing engaging lessons for different age groups. It encourages involvement to foster learning experiences. Interactive features highlight Lingo Kids' focus on early language development. Moreover, Lingo Kids uses games tailored to each child's stage of learning to enhance motivation. Although considerations regarding screen time impact and the need for a balanced learning approach exist, Lingo Kids receives satisfaction ratings due to its child design.

Buddy.AI concentrates on AI with an emphasis on spoken language skills through dialogue. By utilizing natural language processing technology, Buddy.AI provides users with experiences to enhance fluency. The app tailors lessons based on proficiency levels as well as evolving language capabilities.

Buddy.AI specializes in offering feedback on language helping users improve their pronunciation in real time. However, it's important to consider some challenges, such as the requirement for an internet connection and the limitations of AI in capturing the nuances of language. Early feedback suggests that many users have had experiences with this app, especially when enhancing their skills. To make the most of their language learning journey, users must acknowledge and understand the strengths and potential obstacles of each application they choose to utilize.

In conclusion, this research contributes to the ongoing discourse on language learning in the digital age, exploring the dimensions of language learning applications. The study not only underscores their positive attributes but also underscores the importance of recognizing potential drawbacks to maximize the efficacy of each application in the language learning process.

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