



Improving Writing Skills through Online Learning Platforms for ESL Learners Sonali Deshmukh ¹, Dr. Waheed Bhat ²

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ABSTRACT

The rapid rise of online learning platforms has changed the face of language instruction, particularly in the realm of writing proficiency. This research paper makes an attempt to explore the opportunities for ESL learners to improve their English writing skills by using digital platforms. It looks at technologies that can offer practice, feedback and personalized learning experiences such as learning management systems (LMS), AI-powered writing assistants and collaborative tools. This study uses secondary data from academic sources and peer-reviewed journals as the part of qualitative research methodology. The findings demonstrate the potential of online platforms to improve the accuracy, consistency, and originality of writing through ongoing feedback and students' independence. However, problems such as the digital divide, lack of motivation and over reliance on automated technologies still exist. The report gives pedagogical recommendations on how to effectively use online platforms in language training

1. INTRODUCTION

Writing is an important language learning skill that needs practice, feedback and critical thinking. The advent of digital technology has led to online learning platforms becoming ever more important instruments for improving writing skills. These sites offer students a number of resources, interesting exercises and quick feedback.

Graham (2019) states that effective writing instruction is dependent on continuous practice and feedback, which can be obtained through online resources. Now, with the integration of digital technologies, students have more opportunities to hone their writing skills in flexible and personalized environments.

2. Role of Online Learning Platforms in Writing Skill Development

There are many easy and practical ways for students to improve their writing skills via online learning tools. These resources make writing easier and faster by providing practice, feedback, and learning opportunities.

2.1 Feedback and Assessment

Online learning resources can provide instant feedback to students on their writing. They help to check vocabulary, sentence structure, grammar and spelling. The platform provides immediate corrections if pupils err. This allows people to see where they are going wrong and gradually improve their writing. Regular feedback improves writing and raises pupils' self-esteem.

2.2 Personalized Learning

All students learn differently. Online systems for adaptive learning are used to find out what each student is strong and weak on. They give workouts and lessons based on the needs of each person. For example, the site offers additional grammar drills for students struggling with grammar. This leads to more focused and efficient learning.

2.3 Collaborative Learning

Online platforms also make group learning easier. Students can participate in discussion boards, collaborate on group writing assignments and review their peer's work. Peer reviews allow students to learn from the thought processes and mistakes of their peers. This develops communication, creativity and critical thinking skills. It also makes the learning more engaging and dynamic.

2.4 Practice and Accessibility

One of the biggest benefits of online learning platforms is that students can practice anytime, anywhere. All they need is a smartphone, tablet or computer with an internet connection. Writing regularly builds fluency and consistency. Easy access to learning materials means students can stay connected to learning outside the classroom.

3. Benefits of Online Learning Platforms

3.1 Quick Response and Error Correction



Online learning platforms enable students to get instant feedback on their writing tasks. There are many tools that will automatically find errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling and sentence structure. This quick fix helps the learners to know what they have done wrong and how to improve their writing skills little by little. Instant feedback saves time for both teachers and students and promotes ongoing learning.

3.2 Adaptable and Independent Learning

Students can use online platforms to learn at their own pace and in their own style. Learners can watch videos, or repeat writing exercises or lessons as many times as they want. This flexibility helps students to be independent learners as they can take control of their own study schedules and focus on areas where they require improvement.

3.3 Increased Student Autonomy

Students are encouraged to take charge of their own education through online learning. Through online tests and exercises, they can select subjects, finish tasks on their own, and track their development. This fosters motivation, self-assurance, and decision-making skills all of which are critical for improving academic performance and writing.

3.4 Availability of Various Writing Tools

Numerous helpful writing tools are available on the internet, including dictionaries, grammar checks, plagiarism detectors, note-taking software, and sites for expanding one's vocabulary. With the help of these resources, students can enhance their general writing quality, word utilization, and sentence construction. ESL learners are able to produce written work that is more precise and structured as a result.

3.5 Possibilities for Teamwork and Collaboration

Through discussion boards, group projects, shared papers, and peer review exercises, online learning environments foster collaborative learning. Students can collaborate on writing assignments, share ideas, and provide feedback to one another. This connection makes learning more dynamic and interesting while enhancing critical thinking, creativity, and communication abilities.

4. Challenges and Limitations

4.1 The issues around the digital divide and accessibility

Not every student has equal access to technology due to the digital divide and accessibility. Some kids may have laptops, smartphones, internet access, and digital learning resources, while others may not. There is a learning opportunity gap as a result. AI-based learning resources are frequently more challenging for students from rural or economically disadvantaged areas. As a result, not everyone will gain equally from AI in education.

4.2 A lack of face-to-face interaction

The absence of in-person interaction is another significant drawback. Students can ask questions, have direct conversations with teachers, and learn through authentic communication in typical classroom settings. This interpersonal interaction is diminished in AI-based learning. As a result, when they do not receive prompt human assistance, students may feel less connected, less supported, and occasionally confused. AI can help students learn, but it can't completely take the place of a genuine teacher's kindness and comprehension.

4.3 An over dependence on AI tools

Another issue is an over reliance on AI tools. Students may stop thinking critically on their own if they use AI excessively. They might grow reliant on the tool for writing, problem-solving, and replies. This may lessen one's capacity for original thought, creativity, and problem-solving. AI should ultimately be used by students as a support system rather than as a whole substitute for their own work.

4.4 Issues with self-control and motivation Data privacy concerns

Self-control and motivation are also important components. AI technologies can be helpful, but in order to use them properly, students still need to exercise self-control. Without truly learning anything, some students may get distracted, waste time, or just exploit the tools for quick fixes. Motivation, curiosity, and consistent practice are necessary for successful learning. Students who lack self-discipline are less likely to benefit from AI tools.

Finally, concerns about data privacy are critical. In order to provide services, several AI platforms collect user data. It could be risky if personal information is not sufficiently protected. The storage, use, and sharing of personal data may worry educators and students. Thus, the application of AI in education needs to be done responsibly and safely.

5. Findings and Discussion

Online learning platforms significantly improve writing skills by providing opportunities for teamwork, personalized instruction, and continuous feedback, according to the study mentioned above. Students' grammar, coherence, and organization have improved. However, for these platforms to be successful, proper supervision and balanced use with traditional teaching methods are required.

6. Suggestions and Recommendations

6.1 Combine Classroom Training with Online Resources

When online resources like videos, e-books, tests, and learning applications are used to supplement classroom instruction, students learn more effectively. Students can use internet resources to review subjects that teachers have explained in class.



Learning becomes more adaptable, engaging, and efficient as a result of this combination.

6.2 Train Educators and Students

Teachers and students should be properly trained in the usage of AI-based platforms and digital technologies. They can use technology with confidence and accuracy thanks to training. Additionally, it enhances the quality of instruction and the educational experience for pupils.

6.3 Promote Group Writing and Peer Review

Students should be encouraged to collaborate on writing assignments and evaluate one another's work. Engaging in group activities enhances critical thinking, creativity, and communication abilities. Additionally, peer criticism enables students to grow as writers by learning from their mistakes.

6.4 Guarantee Fair Access to Online Resources

Devices, internet connections, and digital learning resources should be equally available to all pupils. To ensure that no kid is left behind, governments and schools should assist children from rural or economically disadvantaged families.

6.5 Encourage the Critical Application of AI-Based Tools

In education, AI techniques should be applied sensibly and ethically. Instead of relying solely on AI-generated solutions, students need to develop critical thinking skills. Instructors should help students use AI as a helpful tool for research, learning, and creativity.

7. CONCLUSION

Online platforms offer creative and adaptable learning opportunities; online learning materials are crucial for enhancing English writing abilities. These resources aid students with sentence construction, spelling, and concept organization by providing grammar exercises, vocabulary exercises, writing tutorials, and immediate feedback. Learning is made more interesting and pleasurable by interactive elements like discussion boards, movies, tests, and group projects. Additionally, students can practice writing whenever and wherever it is convenient for them thanks to online resources that facilitate independent and self-paced learning. This adaptability boosts pupils' self-esteem, drive, and involvement in the educational process. However, appropriate implementation and human supervision are necessary for online learning resources to be effective. Since students still require instructors' encouragement, guidance, and feedback, technology cannot fully take the position of teachers. Teachers assist students in comprehending challenging ideas, track their development, and provide guidance on how to use internet resources efficiently. Thus, effective writing skill development requires a well-balanced mix of technology and conventional instructional techniques. In order to develop more successful teaching tactics, future research should concentrate on empirical studies that investigate the true effects of online learning platforms on grammar, vocabulary, creativity, and overall writing performance..

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