

INFLUENCE OF INTERNET TO LANGUAGE

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ANATATION: *The internet has had a significant impact on language change, particularly in the way people communicate and express themselves online. This article explores the ways in which the internet has influenced language change, including the emergence of new words and phrases, changes in grammar and syntax, and the evolution of language norms. The article also discusses the potential implications of these changes for language use and communication in the digital age.*

KEY WORDS: *linguistic revaluation, formal and informal language new linguistic forms.*

The internet, a ubiquitous force in modern life, has not only transformed communication but also instigated a linguistic revolution. Its impact on language is multifaceted, accelerating the pace of change, fostering new forms of expression, and challenging traditional linguistic norms. This article delves into the fascinating ways the internet is influencing language and its implications for the future.

One of the most noticeable impacts is the emergence of new linguistic forms. Internet slang, emojis, acronyms, and shortened words like "lol" and "brb" have become commonplace, blurring the lines between formal and informal language. Emojis, in particular, transcend linguistic barriers, providing a universal visual language for expressing emotions and ideas. While some may

lament the perceived decline of "proper" language, these new forms enrich communication, offering efficiency and nuanced expression.

The internet also fosters globalized language contact, exposing individuals to diverse languages and cultures. Platforms like social media and online forums facilitate interactions between people from across the globe, leading to increased borrowing of words and phrases. Code-switching, the practice of alternating between languages within a conversation, has also become more prevalent. This intercultural exchange fosters a dynamic linguistic landscape, where languages intermingle and evolve through shared usage.

Furthermore, the internet accelerates the pace of language change. Linguistic innovations, once confined to specific regions or communities, can now spread rapidly across the globe through online platforms. Memes, viral videos, and trending hashtags contribute to the swift adoption of new words and expressions. This rapid diffusion challenges the notion of static, standardized language, highlighting the dynamic and ever-evolving nature of communication.

However, the internet's influence is not without its challenges. The informalization of language online raises concerns about the erosion of formal writing skills and the potential for misunderstandings due to the ambiguity of informal language. Additionally, the dominance of major online languages, like English, raises concerns about the preservation of minority languages and dialects.

Despite these challenges, the internet's impact on language presents exciting opportunities. Online platforms can be utilized to promote linguistic diversity and revitalize endangered languages. Language learning apps and online communities offer accessible tools for language acquisition and cultural exchange. Moreover, the vast amount of language data generated online provides valuable resources for linguistic research and analysis, furthering our understanding of how language evolves and adapts.

Jazadi (2004) argues that students may be successful in learning English by practicing this language out-of classroom. At least two studies (Pickard, 1996 and Lamb, 2002 as cited in Jazadi, 2004) show that students might develop English language skills through reading novels, newspapers, magazines, books; listening to a variety of English radio and television programs; creating an English club and using Internet. While exploring the functions of the Internet in general, they may offer opportunities for educators to increase knowledge; communicate with colleagues; get access to teaching materials and share resources. On the other hand, students may also take benefits from using Internet such as developing research skills, having interactive learning, communicating with other students and getting better understanding of global issues. In specific terms of Internet usage and English language learning, the Internet may offer at least two benefits. First, the English language learner may have a direct contact with native speakers. Second, there are various English teaching/learning materials that can be obtained from the Internet such as communication games, grammar exercises, newspapers, and magazines. From another point of view, it is a fact that almost all computer programs are designed in English instructions. In Indonesia, the majority of the computer applications and Internet related programs are using English manuals. Therefore, both Internet usage and English language skills can be explored to support one another. In other words, the Internet can be used to learn English and English language skills may improve the Internet use.

In conclusion, the internet's influence on language is undeniable. It has sparked a linguistic revolution, creating new forms of expression, accelerating change, and fostering globalized communication. While challenges exist, the internet also presents opportunities for linguistic diversity, learning, and research. As we navigate this evolving linguistic landscape, it is crucial to embrace the dynamism of language and harness the power of online communication to foster understanding and connection across cultures.

Internet provides unlimited sources of information that can be explored to learn English. For instance, lecturers have opportunities to increase their knowledge; communicate with colleagues; get access to teaching materials and share resources. Students may also take benefits such as developing research skills, having interactive learning, communicating with other students and getting better understanding of global issues. Furthermore, there are two advantages of using Internet for English language learners: (1) have a direct contact with native speakers; and (2) obtain various English teaching/learning materials. On one hand, webpages and websites offer many advantages in combining texts, images, animations, videos, voices, music and sound effects; on the other hand, the Internet may have significant social and cultural effects. It is a fact that the English language skills and the computer literacy are the two most common criteria required to enter the multinational work place.

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