Enhancing Writing Skills through Blogs in an Undergraduate English Language Classroom in Pakistan

Dr Muhammad Umar Farooq
Taif University, Saudi Arabia
Yasmeen Fatima
Allama Iqbal Open University- Islamabad, Pakistan
Dr Choudhary Zahid Javid
Taif University, Saudi Arabia

ABSTRACT
Web 2.0 technologies, including blogs, have opened up new avenues of personal and professional communication. A blog is an online journal which can be continuously updated by its users (Matheson, 2004). Teachers are using blogs for activities and interaction with their students. The present study focused on using blogs for enhancing writing skills of undergraduate English language learners. A group of undergraduate English language learners was selected randomly and they were provided instructions through teacher’s blog to improve their writing skills. Their writing skills (paragraph, essay and story writing) were assessed through pre-test and post-test focusing on structure, creativity and logical sequence of ideas. The finding revealed that they not only enhanced their writing skills but blogs created a collaborative learning environment as well.

Keywords: blogs, ELT, writing skills, collaborative learning