

INTEGRATION OF TECHNOLOGY AND CULTURE IN LANGUAGE LEARNING FOR EDUCATIONAL MIGRANTS

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The increasing globalization of education has led to a rise in the number of educational migrants, individuals who move to a new country to pursue higher education. However, these migrants often face difficulties integrating into the host society due to language barriers and cultural differences. Language acquisition is crucial for educational success and social inclusion, but traditional methods may not be optimal for this specific population.

The work proposes that integrating technology and culture into language learning materials can be a valuable tool for educational migrants. New technologies like VR and language learning apps offer interactive and engaging learning experiences. By incorporating cultural elements within these technologies, language learning can become more immersive and relevant to the migrants' new environment.

Technology has revolutionized language learning by offering a variety of interactive resources. VR, for example, allows learners to experience simulated environments where they can practice language skills in a safe and controlled setting [3]. Language learning apps provide bite-sized lessons, gamified activities, and personalized learning pathways catering to individual needs. These technologies offer several advantages for educational migrants:

- *Accessibility.* Language learning apps can be accessed on mobile devices, making them readily available for on-the-go learning [1: 23]. This is particularly beneficial for migrants with busy schedules.
- *Engagement.* The interactive nature of these technologies fosters active participation and motivation, making language learning more enjoyable.
- *Individualization.* Many apps offer personalized learning paths that cater to individual learning styles and pace [4: 95].
- *Feedback.* Some tools provide immediate feedback on pronunciation and grammar, allowing for self-correction and improvement.

While technology offers numerous benefits, the effectiveness of language learning materials depends heavily on cultural sensitivity. Integrating cultural elements into technological resources can enhance the learning experience for educational migrants in several ways:

- *Contextualization.* By incorporating cultural references and scenarios relevant to the host country, language learning becomes more meaningful and applicable to real-world situations.
- *Intercultural Competence.* Integrating cultural information and activities can help migrants develop intercultural competence, fostering understanding and respect for the host culture.
- *Motivation.* Using familiar cultural elements can make learning more relatable and engaging for migrants, leading to increased motivation and confidence [4: 95].

Research suggests that technology-based language learning can be effective, particularly when combined with traditional methods [2]. Studies have shown that VR environments can improve language proficiency and motivation in learners. Language learning apps, if designed effectively, can be beneficial for vocabulary acquisition and grammar development. However, the effectiveness of integrating technology and culture in language learning materials for educational migrants requires further investigation.

The integration of technology and culture in language learning materials for educational migrants holds significant promise. These resources can enhance language acquisition, improve cultural understanding, and ultimately facilitate integration into the host society. However, certain limitations need consideration:

- *Digital Divide*. Not all educational migrants have access to the necessary technology or reliable internet connectivity, which can limit their ability to utilize these resources.
- *Overreliance on Technology*. Technology should complement traditional methods, not replace them. Interaction with native speakers and real-world experiences remain essential for language learning and cultural integration.
- *Quality of Materials*. The effectiveness of these materials depends heavily on their design and development. Culturally insensitive content can be counterproductive.

In conclusion, technology, when combined with cultural sensitivity, has the potential to transform language learning for educational migrants. By providing accessible, engaging, and culturally relevant resources, these technologies can facilitate language acquisition, promote cultural understanding, and ultimately contribute to a smoother integration into the host society. Further research is needed to evaluate the effectiveness of specific technological tools and their impact on the learning outcomes of this population.

Reference

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