

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN ESL TEACHING

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Abstract

Living in a hybrid world where we are surrounded by cutting edge technological tools and continuous changes has a deep impact not merely in our physical surroundings but also in shaping the way we teach and learn. Modern trends and practices such as the world wide web, digital media, ebook technology and social networking both make the conventional language teaching more dysfunctional and inefficient and brings along novel conceptions of teaching and learning. This paper first provides an overview on the paradigm shifts taking place in ESL and argues for the necessity of implementing modern trends in language teaching. In the second section, concerns and possible challenges are discussed in line with the aforementioned trends. While the third section of the paper elaborates on the possible solutions for keeping pace with the application of the contemporary tools in ESL. The need for the transformation from didactic and conventional teaching to a more interactive and blended language teaching is also addressed.

Keywords: modern trends, novel conceptions of teaching, paradigm shifts in ESL, challenges and solutions