

**BLOG AS A TOOL TO IMPROVE WRITING SKILL OF B1 LEVEL STUDENTS****Aytimbetova Ulbiyke***Nukus State Pedagogical Institute named after Ajiniyaz*

**Abstract:** *As today is the century of information technology, the usage of modern technologies in teaching and learning process is becoming common. Thus, the research is mainly concerns with the implementation of internet technology in particular, E-blog in improving writing skill of B1 level students. In order to conduct the research the common methods which are observation and interviews were used and the results were analyzed. The findings show that it is of high importance to use Blog in enhancing students' writing skill because of the effectiveness and comfortable usage of Blog.*

**Keywords:** *Writing skill, internet technology, E-blog, B1 level students*

**Introduction.** It is widely known that writing is considered as one of the important skills this is due to the fact that it is closely connected with not only grammar rules but also written discourse. Because of the fact that one must know how to use grammatical structures and discourse markers such as coherence, cohesion in writing letters, essays as well as filling forms. As a consequence, writing skill should be taught appropriately at schools taking into account the most recent technologies. For the sake of the same reason, among B1 level students of schools one of the internet technologies which is E-blog is taken into account as the effective one so as to enhance students' writing skill. This is due to the fact that E-blog is an online journal which gives students a chance not only to take assignments and feedbacks from their teachers online but also to give their comments to their group mates' writings which are considered as a great chance to develop their writing skill by exchanging ideas and correcting their mistakes.

Thus, this study was conducted to investigate the use of Blog for B1 level students in the teaching of writing. Because of the fact that young generations have a great tendency to use modern technologies in learning process. Hence, it is important to investigate the students' perception on the learning process of writing skill with the help of online technology, Blog.

**Literature review.** It is important for teachers to explore multiple ways to make learning processes significant and successful. Learning writing should be meaningful, as fostering the use of internet technology in EFL classrooms, should support the development of writing skill especially with B1 level learners. Having said this, the principal objective of this review is to define the main concepts in this research. It is important to clarify that these constructs are writing skill, and Blog as an internet tool. In addition, this review not only shows the definition of the concepts, but it also presents the principles of scholars in terms of writing as well as using Blog in the classroom.

According to Fatmawaty, writing is considered as a study to focus our mind on important matters, and learning about them. By this activity, a person can find the solution of difficult problems, master the fact even by writing, a person can also communicate their mind that cannot be done through other ways. It can be said that writing is the act of expressing

something through the application of language system. Therefore, the most important points to consider are the aim of writing and the way to gain the purpose. Consequently, it is understandable that language skills are meant as the ability to manipulate the rules of language conventionally, while extra linguistic system or knowledge of the world refers to what the writer knows about the subject to write. (Fatmawaty,2010)

Furthermore, Rahmatia states that writing is a process of creating an idea and expresses the meaning in written form. Writing is way of communicating a message to reader for purpose. The purpose of writing is to provide information for and persuade a reader. (Rahmatia,2010)

According to Johnson, the reason of using blog because teacher is capable of creating and storing online supplemental materials for students, post class notes for student review, and give general feedback to the class considering individually or altogether. Additionally, students are able to submit assignments online (Johnson, 2004).

As for the views of Campbell, Blog serves the following purposes:

(a) With the help of blog, daily practices are given to students this is because of the fact that students find assigned reading material too boring, difficult, or hard to relate with. As a result, it is often written with another purpose in mind. Therefore, a teacher plays an important role in choosing suitable materials for them. That's why teachers often tend to give entries short, geared towards the learner interest, and linked to related online sources for further reading if desired. Additionally, vocabulary used in class can be learned in this way. By using this tool new vocabulary words can be linked to definitions on other sites found with a search engine. Furthermore, an ordinary writing style can be used by the teacher to develop learner familiarity with native language patterns.

(b) Promotes the exploration of English websites. For the same reason, any entry made by the teacher can and ought to encourage further exploration of the internet in English by linking to related articles, and content based websites. For those students who are reluctant to step outside the comfort of exploring the Web in their native language, being led to interesting English language sites will increase their confidence and help to overcome their aversion

(c) It encourages online verbal exchange by using comment buttons. Any blog reader can make a comment that can be read and further commented on by all who access the site at the bottom of each entry. Achieving the goal, a teacher asks your students questions, give them riddles; challenge their views; whatever it takes to encourage them to comment.

(d) It provides class or syllabus information. As entries in the blog can serve to remind students about homework assignments and upcoming discussion topics. By adding links to sites that introduce relevant topics of discussion. Apart from this, a teacher can also follow up on difficult areas of classroom work that might need review or clarification. In addition, the blog includes a permanent link to the classroom syllabus and rules.

(e) It is evident that blog serves as a resource of links for self-study. In the right and/or left margins of the blog, permanent links can be set-up and organized to aid the learner in self-study, for example links to online quizzes, audio and video files for listening practice and ESL interactive websites.(Campbell, 2003)

**Research methods.** In conducting the research, a research design plays an important role in obtaining the data which is the way information gained from the subjects. For the same

reason, the writer used descriptive qualitative method as the research design. This design mainly focuses on understanding and meaning through verbal utterances and observations rather than through numbers. Therefore, the result of the research is in the form of description of collected data that exist during the research.

The data was collected through non-participant observation. It was an observation in which the writer only observed the process of teaching and learning. To obtain the data related to the use of Blog in teaching writing, students' writing was taken to investigate their writing ability since the use of Blog helps students to improve their writing skill.

**Analysis and result.** This study sought to investigate the use of Blog as a tool in improving students' writing skill. It also investigated the development of students' literacy on internet technology. From the result of the findings and discussion, it can be stated as follows:

10<sup>th</sup> grade students of the school with whom the research was conducted were actively participated in online lessons by writing comments in a structured way and submitting essays and letters relying on the grammatical rules and discourse markers. Besides that instead of long and complicated structures students were able to gain knowledge on writing skill in an easy and fast way with the help of using online dictionaries and short grammar structures. Additionally, they could acquire literacy on the usage of internet technology by saving their time this is due to the fact that their writings are saved online and every time they can change the structures or mistakes without any repetition of the same writings which is the best way to save time.

The major conclusion of the study is that the Blog as an effective tool in writing class was successfully applied in some ways. With respect to the tool in teaching writing, it indeed gave benefits to the students as well the teacher such as taking assignments and doing quizzes, puzzles and also exchanging ideas among students and taking and giving feedbacks online. Apart from this, in relation to the students' writing skills, it is significantly improved, in that they achieved the target genre. They learned to write at greater length, with a clear schematic structure, indicating students' improvement in doing assignments on time.

**Conclusion.** Based on the data collected and analyzed from the observation, it can be concluded that most students felt that Blog as an internet tool was very helpful for them in improving their writing skill. As the findings of this study demonstrated Blog had the potential of playing an important role in enhancing students' writing skill by analyzing their writings and taking a chance to correct their mistakes. As the research illustrated, the teachers indicated that Blog is both helpful, and interesting in teaching process this is because of the fact that students found it interesting to use the internet tool, Blog and for teachers they could give feedbacks to all students at once and give further tasks and quizzes. This led the conclusion that the application of this tool is needed in English language teaching and learning in increasing their proficiency to create some ideas on their writing. The use of Blog could improve the students' ability to know more about their mistakes and then correct them which play a great role in self-development and to feel self-confidence this is due to the fact that Blog gives them a chance to create their own works considering the feedbacks of their teacher and group mates. Overall, Blog is considered as not only effective tool in teaching writing skill but also to get acquaintance with the most recent technological news.

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