DEVELOPING EFL LEARNERS' LISTENING COMPREHENSION THROUGH CALL FACILITIES

Wahida Yaiche
Assistant Lecturer/ Salhi Ahmed University
Naama, **ALGERIA**
wahidasebbagh@ymail.com

ABSTRACT

Of the four skills that are generally acknowledged as fundamentals to learning a language, listening is probably the least respected in the Algerian schools, as it is not recognized in tests. Though undervalued, listening materials are currently accessible with accompanying CDs and DVDs. However, the lack of computer assisted language laboratories in Algerian middle and secondary schools effects the teaching and learning of English listening skill as pupils are not exposed to authentic language situations. Consequently, EFL students at the university level often fail to communicate in the target language. The present study, therefore, is an action research primarily concerned with developing EFL learners' listening comprehension in the environment where computer facilities are used. Its main objective is set out to determine the efficiency of CALL labs in enhancing learners' listening skill. In order to probe this objective, two research instruments were designed including tests and a questionnaire administered to teachers attentively designed to investigate learners' listening difficulties in addition to the importance of using CALL materials. In fact, two tests have been employed; a pre-test before the participants start studying listening through CALL and a post-test while learning through CALL to document their performance in both situations. The selected sample represents a group of thirty (30) first-year university learners randomly chosen from the wider population. The main findings obtained from this investigation demonstrated that most learners show a significant progress when learning listening using computers.

Keywords: Listening skill, listening comprehension, CALL, multimedia computing.