**IMPROVING WRITING SKILLS: INTEGRATING NEWS IN LEVELS AND INSTAGRAM**

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**Abstract**: In the 21st century, Instagram has emerged as one of the latest and most popular Social Networking Sites (SNS) that can be integrated with 'News in Levels' App to improve the writing skills of EFL learners. This research employs a literature review methodology to critically examine the collaboration between these two apps in the context of generating writing content through Instagram. The process involves utilizing vocabulary from the 'News in Levels' app, yielding two primary outcomes: 1) Retelling the News, and 2) Creating original content. This article assesses the efficacy of this collaborative approach, delving into how it can be effectively incorporated into the learning process. It emphasizes the advantages of such integration, identifies necessary tools, proposes alternative methods to engage students in writing activities, and outlines essential factors to consider during the implementation phase. The empirical findings of this research hold both theoretical and practical significance, offering valuable insights to students, educators, and future researchers. The integration of Instagram and the 'News in Levels' App as a collaborative tool holds the potential to revolutionize traditional language learning paradigms. By fostering language skills alongside digital literacy and global awareness, this collaboration presents a pioneering pathway to holistic language education. The study ultimately contributes to a nuanced understanding of integrating contemporary SNS platforms into educational contexts, enriching the pedagogical landscape for EFL learners worldwide. In prospect, this study urges ongoing educational-tech-social media evolution.

***Keywords: Instagram, News in Levels, EFL learners, writing skills, collaborative***

**INTRODUCTION**

Life in 21st century, modern education has seen a significant shift towards technology integration in learning. There is also technology integration in language classroom. It leads into easy, efficient, and innovative ones. With the proliferation of technology, many teachers utilize technology in learning processand succeed in terms of resources availability such as teaching media and teaching materials (Abdulrahman, 2016). The technology provides learners with the flexibility to access materials at their own pace and convenience, enabling them to engage with language content beyond the confines of traditional learning environments. Nowadays, people are frequently keep using their mobile devices for social media matter. Social media platforms are not just a means of entertainment but can also be employed as powerful mobile learning tools with a positive impact on language learning. In line, the use of social media could be employed as a mobile learning tool to positively impact in language learning (Al-Jarrah et al., 2019). The integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the field of education has become one of the current norms. One such platform, Instagram, with its visual and interactive nature, offers a unique avenue for fostering writing skills. Moreover, Instagram can create a fun and meaningful learning environment for the students as they are enjoying using Instagram in doing school tasks (Shazali et al., 2019). Writing in the foreign language always become a demanding process where the learners are obligated to use many skills and strategies (Harmer, 2017). Writing is a productive language skill in which students have to express their opinion and ideas through written utterances (Ahmed, 2019). The primary challenge of acquiring writing competence is how to build ideas and compose them into grammatically and culturally appropriate written expressions (Nugroho, 2019). Therefore, Instagram is a worth social networking site to be integrated as a language learning tool for writing. Instagram can give advantages for language teaching and learning process, it also can be promoted as a fun and attractive educational technology for writing activities (Anggia, 2019). In this case, this research critically examines the potential advantages, challenges, and instructional implications of combining 'News in Levels' with Instagram to invigorate writing skills that have not be integrated before. The findings of this research are expected to give practical and significant contributions. The limitation of this research is only a general overview of the potential collaboration between Instagram and 'News in Levels' in English language learning. This research will utilize a literature review methodology. Nevertheless, this study offers valuable insights from existing literature.

**METHODS**

**Research Design**

The method used is a literature study that seeks databases from various references, such as research journals, journal reviews, books, and related data resources. Keywords such as "language learning," "vocabulary acquisition," "News in Levels," "Instagram," and "writing skills" were used to identify relevant literature. The retrieved sources were evaluated based on their relevance to the research topic and the depth of their analysis. Peer Reviewed articles, scholarly papers, research studies, and reputable educational sources were given priority. This process serves as a reference for new literature.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**Language learning and Technology**

The incorporation of social media into language learning is rooted in constructivist and sociocultural theories, which emphasize active participation, interaction, and authentic experiences. There are numerous online language learning platforms such as Duolingo, Rosetta Stone, and Babbel that enable individuals to acquire language skills from anywhere with internet access. These platforms often provide materials that can enhance language acquisition. The integration of technology in language acquisition can enable more efficient learning, personalized education, improved speaking skills, and access to global resources. This study also underscores the pivotal role of teachers and facilitators in monitoring this integration effectively. It suggests that educators can act as guides, steering students toward maximizing the benefits of this amalgamation while maintaining a balanced approach to technology. integration between Instagram and the 'News in Levels' app as digital language learning tools can enhance the efficiency and engagement of students in mastering the writing skill

**'News in Levels': A Multimodal Approach to Vocabulary**

The fundamental concept of 'News in Levels' in presenting news with varying levels of difficulty. It aligns with scaffolding theories, recognizing that learners require appropriately leveled content to progress effectively. This approach mirrors the Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD), as learners are guided through a gradual and targeted language acquisition process. The tiered structure acknowledges the need for incremental challenges, allowing learners to build on their existing language skills. 'News in Levels' serves as a structured platform for vocabulary acquisition. It systematically introduces learners to new words within a context that promotes comprehension and usage. Vocabulary is an aspect of the language that students need to master to gain complete command and understanding of English (Barus & Panjaitan, 2020). In addition, vocabulary is essential when writing. Good writers need a wide range of vocabulary to enhance the clarity and accuracy of their writing.In this case, 'News in Levels' as an educational app provides news articles in different levels of complexity, enabling learners to gradually expand their vocabulary and comprehension skills. The platform employs multimedia resources, such as audio recordings and images, to enhance understanding and engagement. Learners are exposed to a diverse range of language inputs, mirroring the complexity of real-world language use. This integration of technology, media, and progressive vocabulary exposure positions 'News in Levels' as a valuable resource for enhancing vocabulary acquisition and overall language proficiency. Even though there is no previous research which is specifically demonstrated that 'News in Levels' can improve English proficiency, researcher believe that there are several positive impacts of 'News in Levels' on language learning outcomes. There are reading comprehension test, listening audio recording, original video linked to YouTube in the 'News in Levels'. However, there is no sharpening writing section. Therefore, the integration of the ‘News in level’ app with instagram is one of an alternative and such a worth thing.

**Instagram in Educational Contexts**

Twitter, Instagram and Facebook are the most popular social networking sites (SNS) used by university students as their mobile learning tools (Shafie, et. al., 2016). Instagram has emerged as one of the latest and most popular Social Networking Sites (SNS). Instagram attracts undergraduates than any other social networking site (SNS) (Salomon, 2013). Although it was only started in 2010, it has gained very much popularity and is currently one of the most popular SNSs in the world with over 300 million active users (Instagram Press, 2015). Instagram has the potential to be a language learning tool in terms of language skills. Students enjoy writing and giving feedback on Instagram (Handayani et. al., 2018). Instagram can be a platform for intensive writing studies by considering the use of Instagram feature creatively, namely microblog to support learners’ writing journey. Furthermore, Instagram's caption and comment features provide opportunities for text-based language practice. Learners can construct descriptive captions for images, engage in discussions through comments, and collaborate on language-focused projects. This text-production aspect aligns with the goal of enhancing writing skills, offering learners a platform to apply newly acquired vocabulary in meaningful contexts. In this case, the integration between Instagram and the ‘News in Level’ app will motivate learners to produce high-quality content in terms of 1) Educational content and 2) Critical content

**Integrating 'News in Levels' Vocabulary on Instagram**

Integrating 'News in Levels' Vocabulary on Instagram can be an effective way to leverage the platform's features for sharpening writing skills and vocabulary expansion. The integration between Instagram and the ‘News in Level’ app will motivate learners to produce high-quality content in terms of 1) Educational content and 2) Critical content in the form of Microblogging Instagram Content. A microblog is a short piece of content designed for quick audience interactions. Microblogging is a combination of instant messaging and content production (Sprout Social)Here's a step-by-step procedure to integrate 'News in Levels'

vocabulary on Instagram:

1) Creating an Instagram account specifically for writing content

2) Use additional editing tools like Canva to support writing content

3) Defining strategy content. In this case, as mentioned above the content will

be high-quality content by summarizing news articles, making use of vocabulary learned from the 'News in Levels' app, and then sharing personal thoughts critically, which may include opinions, solutions, or personal reflections on the news. By this, it will be informative/educational content which will broader reader knowledge

4) Including Vocabulary Highlights: Highlight the vocabulary words that

have learned from 'News in Levels.' Provide definitions or explanations for

these words within posts. This not only enhances writing but also educates

the audience.

5) Updating relevant “News in Level” articles content.

6) Maintaining a consistent posting schedule to keep the audience engaged and practice writing and vocabulary skills regularly (Consistency is key)

7) Respond to comments on content posting and engage in conversations with others/followers. Encourage questions and discussions related to the news articles and vocabulary that are shared.

7) Monitoring and measuring progress is really needed By following these steps, students can effectively integrate 'News in Levels' vocabulary into Instagram writing content, improve writing skills, and provide informative and educational content to their followers. This approach combines language learning with real-world application, making the writing journey more engaging and rewarding. The integration’s beneficial The synergy between 'News in Levels' and Instagram has the potential to revolutionize language learning experiences. It offers several key benefits:

1) Engaging and Interactive Learning: The integration allows learners to actively engage with real-world content and express their thoughts, opinions, and insights, transforming passive learning into an interactive experience.

2) Contextual Learning: By summarizing news articles and sharing personal reflections, learners gain a deeper understanding of vocabulary in context, making it more likely to stick in their memory.

3) Personalized Learning: Learners can tailor their Instagram content to their own interests and language proficiency levels, creating a personalized and motivating learning path.

4) Cultural Awareness: News articles often touch upon cultural and societal issues, enhancing learners' cultural awareness and global knowledge.

5) Digital Literacy: Using social media platforms like Instagram also nurtures digital literacy skills, a valuable asset in today's digital world.

6) Community Building: Language learners can connect with others who share their interests and goals on Instagram, fostering a supportive and collaborative learning community

7) Continuous Learning: Instagram allows for daily exposure to language learning, promoting consistent practice and skill development.

**CONCLUCION**

In conclusion, the integration of 'News in Levels' vocabulary on Instagram holds immense promise for enhancing the writing skills of EFL learners in the 21st century. This innovative approach capitalizes on the popularity and interactive nature of Instagram, transforming it into a dynamic language learning tool. By summarizing news articles, using vocabulary acquired from 'News in Levels,' and critically sharing personal insights, learners not only hone their writing abilities but also deepen their comprehension of language in real-world contexts. Moreover, it expands the horizons of traditional language education by embracing contemporary social media platforms and adapting them to educational contexts. While this study offers a conceptual framework for integrating 'News in Levels' vocabulary on Instagram, it is essential to acknowledge its limitations. Further research should delve into empirical studies to assess the effectiveness of this approach and provide more concrete evidence of its impact on EFL learners' writing skills. Additionally, ongoing exploration of educational technology and social media integration is crucial to keep pace with the evolving landscape of language education.

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