Unlocking Multiple Intelligence with Technology to Teach English

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Abstract

There has been classic problem in education called teacher centered approach. This paradigm put teacher's performance as the core of learning process. The students are seen to be passive participants so that they can not retrieve benefit of learning process as well. Multiple intelligence helps teachers reach every student in teaching and learning process. Outside of the Multpile Intelligence framework, teacher do not deeply consider the individual condition of the students. They usually teach the students evenly and classicaly. It might cause the ignorance toward individual students' need and characteristics. In fact, Multiple Intelligence regards that the students have different individual intelligences strength. In the digital era fortunate enough to live in a world where countless programs, service and social media platforms are but a click away, these programs can helps teacher to tackle multiple intelligences like never before. This paper focuses on the use of social media platforms for learners to experience new learning style. This paper aimed to describe how multiple intelligence with social media make the students are more facilitated in their learning process. The use of Multiple Intelligence with social media platforms in the classroom promote teaching and learning process more fun, lively and effective.
Keywords: multiple intelligence, social media platforms, learning style

Introduction

Nowadays many people realize that English takes an important role when they deal with other people around the world. As Indonesians do, they really want to learn English so that they will not be left behind. Graddol (2000: 2) stated that English has significant benefit as the medium information sharing. There has been a huge increase of the use of English in many source of information such a book, internet, newspaper, and other kinds of source. Much of those information are so important to many aspects of human life that people need to retrieve them. Consequently, it necessary for people to master English. Multiple Intelligence is a new input that has positive effect in education. It raises a new concenpt of human intelligence that provokes the new paradigm in education including in English teaching, basically on how teacher sees the students. Teaching in technology era is challenging. Teacher are equred to bein line with the technology development since they are dealing with digital natives (Yuyun, 2013). With technology, the teacher can explore various applications to dealwith teaching chores.

Theoretical framework
Multiple intelligence

Teaching English as a Foreign Language which has grown dramatically in Indonesia. Unfortunately in Indonesia, people believe that intelligence is something that can be measured by what is so-called as IQ (Intelligent Quotient) which is considered as only logical-mathematical and linguistics intelligences. It makes the teachers limit their teaching-learning activities based on these two areas only. This fact results in boredom since the teachers solely teach in a one-way teaching, in which the teachers only explain the materials and give the student some exercises. The theory of multiple intelligences proposed by Gardner's researcher from Harvard University (1993), gives solution for such case, this theory offers different point of view to see that human cognition is not a unitary system. According to Gardner, there are eight intelligences in human: linguistic intelligence, logic-Mathematical intelligence, spatial intelligence, and Bodily-kinesthetic Intelligence, Musical Intelligence, Intrapersonal Intelligence, and Naturalist Intelligence. He also adds that every child has many ways to learn to be smart, if one is not good at one thing, he or she might be good at others. Therefore, it is possible for teacher to consider and set the intelligences in every lesson. By utilizing multiple intelligences of the children, teacher can help each child learn optimally through his/her predominant intelligence.

According to Hoerr (2000: 12), the possiteve effect of multiple intelligence is education. Multiple intelligence give teachers new paradigm in viewing their students. Before multiple intelligence exists in education, teachers usually valued theior students based on their achievement score which was obtained by formal test. In this case, the teacher regarded the students as smart if they could achieve good score for the test. In fact, formal test only cover retricted intelligence on certain time. Thus, it was not valid to label the student is smart or not smart. But, multiple intelligence provides chance to broaden the students' talent. It concern on

receiving all students to have eight intelligence types. It believes that each student has differents strength toward each of the eight intelligences. Thus, all the students are smart. Although they are smart in differennt ways.

Furthermore, the implementation of Multiple Intelligence has positive effect toward students academic achievement. The fact about the positive impacts of Multiple Intelligence implementation are strenghten by research conducted by Salim Hadar at 2010. The title is *'Penerapan konsep Multiple Intelligence dalam Mewujudkan Sekolah Unggul"*. It is a thesis for graduate degree of Islamic Eduaction Department of Universtas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim. It was conducted in the frame of descriptive research at YIMA islamic elementary school at Bondowoso in which Multiple intelligence is put as the broadest system in school regulation. The reseacrh focused on finding how teaching and learning process is conducted by adopting Multiple Intellligence concept inorder to develop the school quality.

From the explanation of Multiple Intelligence above, can conclude that Multiple Intelligence is a new input that has positive effect in education. It raises a new concenpt of human intelligence that provokes the new paradigm in education including in English teaching, basically on how teacher sees the students. All students are new found smart and recognized on their strengths. It is useful beacuse by understanding students' strengths, the teacher can provides the students their own learning styles. Thus, they can be well facilitated in learning. As another benefit is that the teacher now has solution in order to create various English teaching activities that focus on both the teacher and the students.

Technology to teach English

Technology or social media take a very important part today. According to the annual report of social media used by higher education faculty 2013 conducted by Pearson Learning solution and Babson Survey Research Group, the use of social media inteaching has grown 21% from 2012 to 2013 in the United State. In English language teaching, the use of social media has evolved over the years. Teaching in the technology era is challenging. Teachers are required to be in line wih the technology development since they are dealing with digital native. With the technology, teachers can explore various applications to deal with teaching chores.

Technology and Multiple intelligences
Visual spatial learners:

- videos

    Visual learners will find applying what they've learned in a video (Youtube or otherwise) enganging and fun. They can do everything froom designing the video graphics to editing and adding music.
- Graphics anf flow charts

    A myriad of online programs like Bubbl.us and text2mindmap can help students organise in visual way. They can brainstorm using online "cork boards" or create flow charts that clearly represent processes learned in class.
- Websites

    Guide students in designing and maintaining websites and blogs.

Logical/mathematical learners
- Polls

    Analytical students can create and distribute online polls then analyse and present result.
- Collaborative spreadsheets

    Online collaborative platforms like google docs or dropbox allow students to work on spreadsheets at the same time, working together to oganise and analyse information.
- Timeline

    Site like timetoast offer tools for creating detailed timelines.

Verbal/ linguistic learner
- Podcasts

    Verbal learners can create their own podcasts online thanks to side like podbean. Have them share reading reflections, current events, or more.

- • Discussion threads

Several services that help students create blogs and websites also offer discussion forums that can be added to said sites. Students can manage intellectual discussions outside class on currents events, popular media , or classroom content.

Musical learners
- • Videos

Musical learners can merge videos and music for classroom projects. Have them write relecant songs, applying their understanding of the content in a creative way. They can also create musical montages to help illustrate their understanding of class content.
- • Recording songs

Online tools like audacity and computer software like garageband make it possible for students to create music from scratch. Have them write the score to a scene from one of the books you're currently reading.
- • Audio blog

Allow students to blog reflection , reaction and reviews in musical manner.

Kinesthetic learners
- • Smart boards

Students can mark up electronic documents with pens and otherwise interact with computers in a tactile way.
- • Collaborative Mark-ups

Sites like twiddla allow students to mark up websites simultaneously, making it easier to engage with each other and material.

Interpersonal learners
- • Collaborative Marks-ups

Twiddla is also excellent for interpersonal learners who benefit from collaborative study.
- • Social media

Websites like twitter and facebook make it easy to collaborate with students in other states

Discussion

Multiple intelligence and technology should be good combination to teach English in this globalization era. The role of technology in the current teaching practice is to comply with the ICT development as well as to enhance the teaching and learning process. Technology expected to help enhanced the students motivation in learning. The feature with the technology and multiple intelligence to teach English ease the student to be exposed to various types of topics and materials through his/her predominant intelligence.

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