The Impact of Whatsapp on the Writing Skills of Engineering Students

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Abstract: The aim of this paper is to identify negative effects of Whatsapp on engineering students writing skills. Research Question of the study is how does using chat WhatsApp impact on the writing skills of engineering students? Objective of the study is to find out the impact of whatsapp on the writing skills of engineering students. The sociocultural theory of human learning's conceptual framework can serve as the main hypothetical foundation for this study. The study of sociocultural theory has a significant impact on the teaching and learning professions. The English phrase "What's up?" which means "What's new?" is where the name "WhatsApp" gets its meaning. With the help of an Internet connection, users of the instant messaging service WhatsApp can send and receive written, audio, video, and image messages. Because of its low cost, WhatsApp is a wonderful alternative to SMS, which can be quite expensive when used outside of one's nation due to roaming fees. Additionally, whatsApp instant messaging encourages online collaboration blended mobile learning is made possible.

Keywords: Whatsapp, Writing Skills, and Sociocultural Theory.

1. INTRODUCTION

The younger generations are now heavily utilizing social media sites like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Whatsapp, and they are readily swayed by these technologies. However, there are drawbacks to social media use for younger generations when it comes to language learning. They frequently interact with others on social media, which influences them to follow the vogue of employing a new language style. Given how frequently people use technology, particularly cellphones, they are developing and learning a new language for messaging. Social media conversation about them. They employ several social media uses a

variety of language, including acronyms or jargon. Consequently, educators are concerned about their students'. Their ability to write will be affected by language acquisition.

Writing Skills

In the digital age, technology is employed to promote writing education. A new online language is being developed as a result of technological advancement and the internet. People, particularly younger generations, employ new types of writing created by this online language for communication. The language, usually referred to as internet slang, is a variety of slang that is employed by various users of the internet.

Whatsapp

Whatsapp is a smartphone messaging programme with a user interface that is reminiscent of BlackBerry Messenger. Because WhatsApp Messenger uses the same internet data plan for email, web surfing, and other activities, we may communicate with one another without having to pay for SMS. WhatsApp Messenger is a cross-platform messaging app. The 3G or WiFi connection is used by the WhatsApp Messenger software for data communication. We can communicate online, share data, swap images, and more by utilising WhatsApp.

One tick (greyed out) indicates that the message was successfully sent, two ticks (grey) indicate that it was received but not read, and two ticks (blue) indicate that it had been read. If there is no internet connection, a clock will show that the message will not be sent until it is. Files like: can be sent over WhatsApp. Photos (straight from camera, file management and media gallery) (directly from camera, file manager and media gallery) Video (directly from video camera, file manager and media gallery) (directly from video camera, file manager and media gallery) Audio (immediate sound recording, file manager, music gallery) Location (You can send your location by using Google Maps to determine where you are) (Send a contact's information from the phone book).

Since whatsapp is becoming a common means of social connection, students are more exposed to it and are more likely to be affected by it. In addition, whatsapp has been applied in numerous ways for a variety of objectives. For instance, YouTube and whatsapp are used for online video streaming and novel sharing, respectively. Whatsapp is employed in educational settings for blended learning as well as for online note-sharing and educational video sharing. Facebook, whatsapp, and YouTube are the three most popular social media platforms that college students typically utilize for relationship development, direct contact, and social involvement.

The Impacts of whatsapp on the Writing Skills of Engineering Students

The majority of research finds that formality, sentence or paragraph structure, spelling, and grammar are the key problems. Because of how casually students are writing their papers, formality is a problem. According to Jamie Perkin's research, people tended to use incomplete phrases and a shorthand style while writing in official settings. This also relates to grammar issues, as students frequently utilize abbreviations and internet slang to keep their writing brief, which has an impact on their official writing. For academic and professional writing, this mindset and style of writing are inappropriate. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to identify the types of academic writing mistakes that students make that are influenced by the use of social media for communication. The researchers were interested in

discovering how messaging on social media affects the formal writing process throughout the data sets. However, improper use of whatsapp can have a detrimental impact on students' writing. The results indicate that some respondents don't think social networking sites may help them write better or can help them with grammar, vocabulary, spelling, or other linguistic qualities. Due to the ease with which social media is accessible and the abundance of materials, some students may even plagiarize the works of others. In addition, they concurred that social media pushed them to write in a different code. When communicating on social media, the majority of respondents feel more at ease using informal English, and they only employ formality when they want to enhance their writing skills.

Literature Review

Hashim, et al (2018) conducted a study titled "Social Media and Its Impact on Students' Writing Skills". The purpose of this essay is to evaluate social media's effects on students' writing abilities, both good and bad. In order to accomplish the study's objectives, primary research was carried out by distributing questionnaires to 88 secondary school students at an academy in a state of Malaysia. The quantitative data was gathered through the surveys. Following data analysis, frequencies and percentages were used to report the results in tables. The results demonstrated that the use of social media had an effect on the students' writing abilities.

Gurusinga (2018), "The contribution of chat using whatsapp on the student's ability in developing English writing sixth semester of English department at UINSU". The focus of this study is on the effect of WhatsApp chat on students' ability to develop their English writing skills at Tarbiyah Faculty's English Department. The researcher wants to know how WhatsApp communication affects students' capacity to improve their English writing. In conducting this study, descriptive qualitative methods were used. The Tarbiyah Faculty's English department served as the data's primary source. Analysis of the interview, observation, and documentation produced the data. Based on the findings of six students' investigation. According to the results, utilizing whatsapp conversation helps students improve their ability to write in English by helping them develop their thoughts through talk, which also broadens their perspective and makes communication more helpful. Alqahtani et al (2018), "WhatsApp: An Online Platform for University-Level English Language Education".

Research Question

How does using chat WhatsApp impact on the writing skills of engineering students?

Objective of the Study

To find out the impact of whatsapp on the writing skills of engineering students.

Significance of the Study

The goal of this study's findings is to determine how WhatsApp communication affects students' capacity to improve their English writing skills. The researcher's findings are anticipated to be helpful to individuals who wish to do further research about WhatsApp chat and English writing skills. For people who want to learn more about WhatsApp chat and English writing, this study should be able to offer useful information.

2. METHODOLOGY

Our daily lives have become synonymous with the use of acronyms, particularly whether communicating via paper or electronic devices. For example, the abbreviations LOL (Laughing out Loud), OMG (Oh My God), FYI (For Your Information), and so on are all examples of acronyms. This study looks at and analyses the typical mistakes that students make when using whatsapp. The usage of capitalization, punctuation, spelling, new and odd jargons, and acronyms are among the common blunders. Students were questioned about the typos they made on whatsapp, including code switching, letter homophones, letter and number combinations, Manglish usage, repetition, and unusual spelling. The misspelling of words is one of the primary mistakes. For instance, the words don't and who are frequently spelled as dun and hu, respectively. According to the data S1 above, students utilise the acronym when speaking English. The outcome of the data "u = you," "r = are," demonstrates this. In summary, because of the local abbreviations that are used frequently in this dialogue, we frequently see it in general. In essence, it can improve our ability to write in English, particularly when using WhatsApp for discussion.

3. CONCLUSION

As a result, the performance of students' writing skills has been impacted by the use of whatsapp in one specific way. Students were discovered to affect writers' writing in both positive and negative ways. The benefits of social media include teaching people how to use obnoxious language in posted comments or status updates. Whatsapp also gives pupils the opportunity to study online essays samples, produce better essays, interact with others visually, learn new languages, and communicate more effectively. Websites for sharing videos, such as YouTube, helped pupils improve their writing through self-education. Other benefits include conquering nervousness, coming up with fresh essay writing ideas, and perfecting their pronunciation. Social networking, meanwhile, does have certain drawbacks of its own. If the students didn't properly manage whatsapp, it would have a negative impact on their writing. Some students believe that whatsapp won't make a significant difference in their ability to improve their grammar, vocabulary, spelling, or other language skills. The pupils copying material from the internet is one of the most significant threats. Finally, because they feel more at ease communicating and interacting online, students frequently utilise casual English. This would not be appropriate in a formal writing setting, and pupils would undoubtedly struggle to distinguish between informal and formal writing. Because of this, social media does play a significant role in students' daily lives, but it may also have both beneficial and harmful effects.

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