INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF TECHNOLOGY AND ACADEMIC RESEARCH

ISSN: 2224-6878 | Pakistan Volume 6, No. 10.

IF: 14.91 | 2026 http://waerasia.org/index.php/ijtar

# MODERN METHODS OF TEACHING ENGLISH

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Doi: https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.23542199

**Abstrac:** The development of modern education has increased the need for effective and learner-centered approaches to English language teaching. Traditional teaching methods are increasingly complemented by communicative activities, task-based learning, digital technologies, and blended learning. This article aims to examine the main characteristics, benefits, and challenges of these modern teaching methods. It adopts a literature-based review approach to discuss their potential contributions to learners' communicative competence, motivation, and active participation. The discussion also considers challenges such as limited technological resources, differences in learners' abilities, and the need for teacher training. The article argues that effective English language teaching requires a flexible combination of teaching methods adapted to learners' needs and educational contexts.

**Keywords:** English language teaching, communicative language teaching, task-based learning, digital technologies, learner-centered education.

## 1. Introduction

English has become an important means of communication in education, science, business, and international cooperation. As a result, English language teaching requires approaches that help learners develop not only grammatical knowledge but also the ability to use the language in real-life situations. This has encouraged educators to explore teaching methods that promote active participation, meaningful communication, and learner independence.One important development in English language teaching is the shift towards communicative and learner-centered approaches. Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) emphasizes the use of English for meaningful interaction, while Task-Based Language Teaching (TBLT) allows learners to develop language skills by completing purposeful activities. The Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference for Languages also highlights the importance of meaningful tasks, collaboration, and learners' ability to use language in different social contexts (Council of Europe, 2020). These approaches provide opportunities for learners to practise English beyond isolated grammar exercises.However, the effectiveness of modern teaching methods depends on how they are selected and implemented. Teachers may face challenges related to learners' different proficiency levels, limited technological resources, and insufficient opportunities for communication outside the classroom. Therefore, modern methods should be adapted to learners' needs and the educational environment rather than applied in the same way in every situation.The aim of this article is to examine major modern methods of teaching English, focusing on their key features, potential benefits, and practical challenges. It also considers how communicative activities, task-based learning, and digital tools can contribute to a more engaging and effective language-learning process.

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## 2. Modern Methods of Teaching English

### 2.1. Communicative Language Teaching

Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) is an approach that focuses on developing learners' ability to communicate effectively in English. Instead of concentrating exclusively on grammatical rules and vocabulary memorisation, this method encourages students to use the language for meaningful purposes. Classroom activities may include discussions, information-gap exercises, pair work, and problem-solving tasks. Such activities give learners opportunities to express opinions, ask questions, and respond to others in English.An important advantage of CLT is that it connects language learning with practical communication. Learners can develop speaking and listening skills while building confidence in using English. Nevertheless, successful implementation requires careful lesson planning and appropriate support for students with different proficiency levels. Teachers should also provide feedback on grammatical accuracy so that fluency does not become the only learning objective.

### 2.2. Task-Based Language Teaching

Task-Based Language Teaching (TBLT) is another approach that places meaningful tasks at the centre of the learning process. Learners use English to achieve a specific outcome, such as planning a journey, preparing a presentation, comparing possible solutions, or organising an event. The main focus is on completing the task through communication rather than simply practising a particular grammatical structure.The British Council describes task-based learning as an approach in which learners complete interactive activities and subsequently reflect on the language they have used (British Council, n.d.). This structure can connect language practice with real-life situations and encourage collaboration. For example, students working in small groups may design a travel itinerary and present their decisions to the class. During this activity, they practise vocabulary, negotiation, and speaking skills in an integrated way.However, tasks need to be appropriate to learners' language levels and learning objectives. If an activity is too difficult or its instructions are unclear, students may struggle to participate effectively. Therefore, teachers should provide clear guidance, suitable resources, and feedback after task completion.

### 2.3. Technology-Enhanced Learning and Blended Learning

Technology-enhanced learning has become an important component of modern English language teaching. Digital platforms, educational applications, online videos, and interactive exercises provide additional opportunities to practise English both inside and outside the classroom. These tools can support vocabulary development, listening comprehension, pronunciation, and independent learning. For example, students can use online quizzes to review new vocabulary or record their speech to identify areas that require improvement.Blended learning combines face-to-face instruction with online learning activities. This approach allows teachers to explain complex topics in the classroom while assigning digital exercises for additional practice. Xu et al. (2020) examined blended English instruction at a public university in Mexico and found positive effects on students' course grades and completion rates. Their findings suggest that blended learning can be a useful alternative to exclusively classroom-based instruction in appropriate educational contexts.Despite these benefits, technology does not automatically improve learning outcomes. Students may experience difficulties because of limited internet access, insufficient digital skills, or distractions from online platforms. Moreover, excessive dependence on digital tools may reduce opportunities for direct interaction if activities are poorly designed. Therefore,

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teachers should select technologies according to clear learning objectives and use them to complement, rather than replace, effective teaching practices.

3. Discussion

The methods discussed above offer different but complementary opportunities for English language learning. Communicative Language Teaching prioritises meaningful interaction, while Task-Based Language Teaching organises learning around practical outcomes. Technology-enhanced and blended learning can extend these opportunities beyond the classroom. However, their effectiveness depends on lesson design, learner needs, teacher preparation, and access to appropriate resources. A 2025 British Council review also identifies technological change, learner diversity, and continuing teacher development as important issues in contemporary English language teaching (Motteram & Dawson, 2025).Rather than relying on a single method, teachers should combine approaches according to their educational objectives. For instance, a lesson may begin with vocabulary preparation, continue with a collaborative task, and finish with feedback and digital practice. Such a combination can support communication while maintaining attention to accuracy and individual progress.

4. Conclusion

Modern methods of teaching English provide opportunities to make language learning more interactive, practical, and learner-centred. Communicative Language Teaching, Task-Based Language Teaching, and technology-enhanced learning each contribute to different aspects of language development. Nevertheless, these approaches require thoughtful planning, suitable resources, and effective teacher guidance. It can therefore be concluded that successful English language teaching depends not on the use of a particular method alone, but on the appropriate integration of methods that respond to learners' needs and learning objectives.

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