

## The use of music and film in teaching English

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### Abstract

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This article is a review-library method, which was written according to the opinions of scholars in this field. The purpose of this study is to investigate the use of music and film in teaching English. The necessary content for writing this study was obtained through searching in databases (SID), scholar G and Google search engine. The obtained results show that, according to the mentioned advantages, the use of film and music as educational tools in teaching English is very effective and helps students to improve their language skills significantly.

Keywords: music, film, English language teaching

## Introduction

There are strong reasons that show that listening to songs in English will have a great effect on learning English. The accepted theory today is that music has a positive effect on the functioning of the human brain. Listening to music makes serotonin hormone produced faster. The release of this hormone makes people feel good, so increasing the production of this hormone helps people live happily and reduce stress levels. The effect of music on human memory, whether directly or indirectly, plays a significant role in memorizing and permanence of learning in memory (Sammler et al., 2017).

People like to listen to a piece of music over and over again, and the words are imprinted in their minds involuntarily and without any effort.

Songs always contain words and expressions. Since the audience of these songs are native speakers, therefore, in the heart of these songs, you can find a lot of colloquial words and expressions. These expressions and idioms may not be mentioned in language classes and...

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Listening to songs in English also helps to strengthen your dialect and accent, and it also increases your vocabulary (Milner, 2020).

If you pay attention, a series of words are repeated in most of the songs, and by listening to that song repeatedly, you will master both the words of that song and its grammatical structure. One of the reasons why people think that learning English is difficult is that during the day they are busy with work, study, etc. They don't have time to read or even participate in English classes. But when you learn English with music, you can in your free time or even on the way from work to home, in the kitchen, etc. listen You will see how much fun it is to learn English this way (Sleeper, 2007).

Music and movies can be very effective tools for teaching English. Below are some of their uses in teaching English: (Nilipour, 2022).

**Improve listening skills:** listening to music and watching movies in English can improve listening skills. By listening to songs and watching videos, you will get to know the accent, sounds and new expressions of the English language and improve your ability to understand English conversations and texts.

**Enhancing your vocabulary:** Music and movies can help you expand your vocabulary. In the music texts and dialogues of the movies, there are new words that you can learn and use in your conversations.

**Improve pronunciation and accent:** Listening to music and watching movies will help you learn correct pronunciation and proper accent. By repeating and practicing the pronunciation of words and phrases in the form of music and videos, you can improve your pronunciation and get to know

different accents of the English language.

Learning phrases and idioms: Music and movies are rich in everyday English phrases and idioms. By watching movies and listening to music, you can naturally learn new phrases and idioms and use them in your conversations.

Culture and Sociology: Music and movies not only teach you the language, but also help you better understand the culture and society of native English speakers. These cultural and social elements in music and movies can show you concepts such as customs, entertainment, events and ideologies of sect and society.

In general, using music and movies in teaching English can be an attractive and enjoyable opportunity to learn. By combining watching and listening, you can improve your language skills and gain a better understanding of the language by experiencing English language culture and society.

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### Theoretical foundations of research

Learning English with music is useful for learning the correct pronunciation of words and preparing the mind to hear and understand sentences.

You memorize all the lyrics of the song and remember it years later.

You can sing that song much better than the original singer! Now consider the same thing about foreign songs

Music and the rhythm of sentences and words have a great impact on our mind and learning. language learning

Learning English is faster by relying on this technique. Listening enhancement can be enhanced by watching movies or listening to music.

When you watch a movie, after a while you can repeat some of its dialogues well.

If you Watch another language (while you are not fluent in that language) because of your interest in watching that movie, you can understand it very well.

You will understand the dialogues without translation. Combining sound, image, movements and different senses together to receive more and better learning helps.

Listening to sentences can also be useful in reinforcing the grammar of different languages, as

One of the most effective ways to improve English grammar is to use this technique (Stewart et al., 2016).

Teaching English with poetry and music is a very good tool to achieve your goals because...

Music stays in your mind: has it ever happened that a song keeps repeating itself in your mind? Who has such experience.

Music goes deep into your mind and that's why in language classes to help memorize new words, music is used.

Most of the people enjoy listening to music like their favorite music, they listen again and again until that song penetrates into their hearts. This repetition is associated with a kind of pleasantness.

This is great for teaching new words and sentences and imprinting them in your mind so that you will never forget them again. You won't need any grammar framework (Binder, 2020).

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Music is portable: you can take music with you everywhere. That is, against the limitations of the books, references, videos or conversation patterns. Have a list of songs you like in your phone and listen to them when you have time. Make sure you are actively listening to the music, the words, the pronunciation and the rhythm.

Pay attention to get the most benefit (Sleeper, 2007).

Music improves your pronunciation: sing along with the singer to get closer to the correct pronunciation.

Reading the song helps you to learn the words that are expressed in the text: how to use the words in sentences

Pay attention because it plays a key role in how you talk in the real world. You cannot separate the words and learn meaninglessly and expect pleasure too (Zatorre, 2019).

Listening to songs in your target language gives you more than the words themselves: the content of the words. To this, you learn how to use words in real life. In the sense that more and more you can be like one who speaks natively and in less time than it takes to learn other methods.

One of the ways to spend free time and enjoy it is watching movies, series and cartoons in the original language. But is it really possible to enjoy watching a movie and learn a new language at the same time? Why is it better to watch movies?

Learn another language with music than through a textbook?

By learning English through original language movies, you learn the language that the people of that country speak (colloquial language), not book and literary language.

In the original language movies, the English that is spoken is very natural and very close to what you will hear on the street. Watching movies will strengthen your spoken language (Stewart et al., 2016).

You learn words and terms in their proper context and where they are used.

One of the most practical parts of learning English is through watching movies and series in the original language.

Let's assume that you are interested in watching Police movies where crime happens. Next, since you have watched 10 or 20 movies with this topic, you will learn words related to this topic little by little. When the words we learn in the traditional way (for example in school), we memorize a list of words and learn their meaning, but the problem is that we do not know where and how to use those words (Koelsch & Siebel, 2015).

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## Research background

Khanjari (1400), language learning as the most developed means of communication with other societies and different cultures has always been of interest to mankind, and in this regard, he has always tried to learn the language of other nations by taking advantage of various facilities and techniques. Teach your language to others. In different eras, the needs of language learning and the type of foreign language that is chosen for learning are always changing according to the existing conditions. In recent years, due to various scientific, cultural and political reasons, the English language has become a means of communication between people of different cultures and nationalities, and since today's world has become a hypothetical village with the development of mass communication tools, the human need to Learning and knowing this common language is felt more than ever. Although English language teaching has been taught in schools and specialized schools for several years, it has always suffered from shortcomings and has not had an efficient and fruitful result. One of the most important reasons for this inefficiency is the choice of the method that is considered for teaching and learning this language. We learn language literacy, but we do not know the language! Learning a language should start with listening and

speaking, not reading and writing. Another point is to make learning fun and enjoyable. Learning English should start with feeling, not memorizing. As a result, choosing a method of education that respects this sequence is a victory in the efficient learning of the English language, using modern methods, and here music can arouse the enthusiasm of the audience, thus making learning dynamic, stable and sustainable make (Peretz et al., 2019).

Seif et al. (2018), the effect of music in learning English is to the point that listening to a classical song will be very effective for learning English with correct pronunciation and accent due to the abundance of colloquial words and terms. In fact, when we listen to English music, our ability to focus and understand the pronunciation and rhythm of words will increase significantly, and repeating the poem and song at the same time will greatly speed up the process of learning English. You can also download your favorite music video with subtitles from English language teaching websites and have it on your phone so that you can use it at different times. When people learn English through music, they will no longer face a shortage of time and can easily learn this language. Listening to music doesn't really have a special time, and you can learn English even while cooking. Another effect of music in learning English is getting to know the culture of English-speaking people, their thinking and feelings in a short period of time. You can have a conversation with your English-speaking friends about famous artists, singers and musicians in English, which will be a special experience (Koelsch & Siebel, 2015).

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## findings

### The use of poetry and songs in teaching English

Lyrical songs have many benefits such as introducing different cultures and eloquence of expression and creating a sense of relaxation. The songs are re-readable and a valuable resource for English teaching.

In the past, English was taught in a traditional way and teachers only introduced vocabulary and grammar points. Language learners also had to memorize these points. This method caused difficulty in learning. Today, using music can improve the atmosphere of teaching and practice in the classroom.

More than what was imagined, songs and songs are an entertaining tool and a constant companion of the English teaching experience. Appropriate songs and music provide a relaxing and

comfortable environment and are considered a direct and real source in the language class. So why are songs ignored by coaches? In this article, the value of English songs in improving language teaching has been shown.

Intrinsic benefits of using songs in the language classroom

In teaching with songs, music and language are combined in a homogeneous way. This point has countless benefits and deserves more attention. Music is full of cultural topics and content and can be a unique tool in therapeutic or educational services (Stewart et al., 2016).

### **Music is a symbol of different cultures**

Expressive language is the embodiment and symbol of the cultural realities of different nations. In songs, language and music blend to express cultural realities in a unique way. English songs are an opportunity to express cultural events and approaches easily (Koelsch & Siebel, 2015).

Eloquence of words and content

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The song expresses love and feelings, memorable stories, dreams and ideals of people in different cultures, which resonates in the heart of the learner. The unconscious acquisition of language skills depends on meaningful and frequent exposure to understandable content.

Ability to read song lyrics

Each song has a conversational or poetic rhythm and style of expression. As a result, language learners get to know different and attractive styles (Peretz et al., 2019).

Therapeutic benefits

In general, the main use of music is to create relaxation and entertainment. Music can be relaxing for humans, extend mental powers and promote creativity. Strengthening self-esteem by creating satisfaction from music performance, and having rhythmic potential in creating energy and order are other benefits of music.

### **How English songs make language learning easy**

Language learning is done through its teaching, and language teaching theories focus on its learning process as follows.

Psychological application

Today, the definition of learning is influenced by psychological studies about the learning process. Here, the simultaneous effect of English teaching and the use of song is discussed from the perspective of human brain studies (Stewart et al., 2016).

#### Multiple intelligences and the use of English songs

The theory of multiple intelligence (MI) refers to different types of intelligence and its degrees. According to this theory, human intelligence is classified into at least nine main categories: verbal or linguistic intelligence, mathematical or logical intelligence, visual or visual intelligence, motor intelligence, musical intelligence, interpersonal intelligence, intrapersonal intelligence, naturalistic intelligence and existential intelligence. All are dependent and complement each other. So all of them increase the ability to learn the language.

#### The role of the brain in language learning

Psychological research about language shows that music activates language learning in both hemispheres of the brain. Music sends linguistic information to the brain in a different way. As a result, language learning is also activated in the right hemisphere.

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#### Emotional learning through song

By creating a harmonious atmosphere, the use of English songs in the language teaching class plays a role in reducing students' anxiety, strengthening interest and motivation in learning, and emotional learning. A research shows that an ideal teacher can improve the classroom atmosphere to encourage students and reduce their anxiety by creating motivation, interest, and a positive attitude towards dynamic classroom activities.

#### anxiety

Learning a foreign language should not be accompanied by anxiety. Therefore, the level of anxiety of the language learner should reach its lowest level in order to be successful in language learning (Koelsch & Siebel, 2015).

#### Motivating with English songs

Cognitive and emotional motivation leads to a conscious decision to participate in a strenuous and continuous intellectual or physical activity. Motivation may be caused by internal factors such as interest, passion and personal desire, or external factors such as competition with peers and classmates. Topic: Many English songs are attractive to young people and motivate them. Young people tend to learn these songs and find themselves in the pattern of the songs (Zatorre, 2019).

#### Learning in the shadow of feeling



Linguistic-psychological researches show that emotional factors are effective in learning and lead to better brain efficiency, increase multiple language processes and increase learning capacity in language learners. The results of this research prove the amazing effect of music on classroom teaching efficiency.

### **Songs help increase awareness when learning a language**

Language awareness is a tool in the hand of the learner to help himself. In this way, in addition to language, points such as culture, identity and equality will also be considered (Stewart et al., 2016).

#### Linguistic awareness

Linguistic self-awareness is a dynamic, continuous, internal and mental characteristic. Self-awareness gives the learner a new look to pay attention to how the mechanism of language learning works.

## 9 The effect of language awareness and song on language learning

Listening to English songs and eager to learn or sing them makes the learner curious about the language used in the song. In order for a language learner to be able to sing a song on his own, he needs to be able to speak English

### **Discussion**

The use of English songs in education will institutionalize language skills. In this way, the mental and emotional strength of the language learner is strengthened so that he can get rid of the anxiety of the language class. Listening to the song can reduce the psychological barriers of the language learner such as lack of self-confidence and apprehension and increase his enthusiasm to understand the material and participate in the class. English songs have great potential in this regard. In addition, songs that are comprehensible, enjoyable, authentic, and full of language lessons such as rhythm are needed in real life. Such inherent features of the song make it used as an effective educational resource in the language classroom and used to develop linguistic intelligence and advance linguistic awareness.

The use of movies and music in teaching English is very important. Below are some of the importance of using these methods:

**Attractiveness and mobility:** The use of movies and music in teaching English makes the education process attractive and dynamic. Students are often naturally interested in movies and music, and through these media they can learn the language. These methods create more motivation in students and encourage them to study.

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**Strengthen listening skills:** Listening to music and watching movies in English can improve students' listening skills. By watching movies and listening to music, students become familiar with accents, speaking speed, and how to use English phrases and vocabulary. This helps them to improve their reading comprehension skills and recognize words and phrases in the text.

**Vocabulary Development:** Movies and music are rich sources of new vocabulary and everyday English expressions. By watching movies and listening to music, students get to know new vocabulary and can use it in different contexts such as daily conversations, education, business, etc. These methods are very effective for increasing students' vocabulary.

**Practical training:** Movies and music can be used as sources of practical training in English. By watching movies and listening to music, students get to know the conversations and realities of English in daily life, and can strengthen conversation skills, reading comprehension and interpretation, pronunciation, and cultural communication.

**Language culture:** Movies and music can help students to get to know English language culture and its different aspects. In the films, social habits and behaviors, rituals and local music can be seen, which can help to better understand the culture of the language.

**Variety and interaction:** Using movies and music in teaching English provides students with an opportunity to interact with English language resources and experience different environments. These methods add variety and dynamism to the teaching process, allowing students to engage with a wide variety of accents, musical styles, and scenarios.

Considering the mentioned advantages, using movies and music as educational tools in teaching English is very effective and helps students to improve their language skills significantly.

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