

**“TEACHING FOREIGN LANGUAGES IN THE  
CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:  
BEST PRACTICES, PROBLEMS AND  
OPPORTUNITIES”**

**Published Date: - 18-10-2023**

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**The use of dual subtitles in ESL learning**

This article investigates the effects of dual subtitles on vocabulary and listening comprehension at the elementary school level. School kids were given three movies to view and journal writing prompts. The findings showed that the dual subtitles made it easier for the participants to understand the videos.

В этой статье исследуется влияние двойных субтитров на лексику и слуховое восприятие детей на уровне начальной школы. Школьники получили три фильма для просмотра и подсказки для написания журнала. Выводы показали, что использование двойных субтитров облегчило понимание участниками видеороликов.

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Ushbu maqola qo'sh subtitrlarning maktab darajasida lug'at va tinglab tushunishga ta'sirini o'rganadi. Maktab o'quvchilariga ko'rish uchun uchta film va jurnal yozish bo'yicha ko'rsatmalar va berildi. Topilmalar shuni ko'rsatdiki, qo'sh subtitrlar ishtirokchilarga videolarni tushunishni osonlashtirdi.

**Keywords:** Dual subtitles, listening comprehension, vocabulary acquisition, elementary level.

The purpose of this study was to investigate how dual subtitles impact the listening comprehension and vocabulary learning of elementary-level learners, demonstrating how language learning tools can be utilized in and out of ESL classrooms. Knowledge of the use of dual subtitles with relatively new language learning tools will reveal effective ways of encouraging students.

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Data collection procedure at four stages: checking the participants' prior listening and vocabulary skills, providing them with videos and journals, arranging a focus group, and finally, testing their vocabulary to check long-term memory. During the study, You-Tube, language learning reactor tool was used via Google extension.

There were 263 words in a movie, even though the highest number of the learnt words was 7, it did not show that the participants had been familiar with other words. Future studies can focus on the use of subtitles and their relationship with the spelling of new vocabulary. Probably, they may not remember the meaning of the new words in the long term, but it can be beneficial to get themselves familiarized with the written form of the words or phrases.

According to the focus group results, the majority managed to comprehend the movies because of the

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dual subtitles. The participants shared contradictory ideas about the use of subtitles, while some of them liked the idea of dual subtitles, two of them preferred monolingual subtitles only. Although none of the participants mentioned some words in their journals, they still were able to recall them after two weeks of the study was conducted.

Since they rely on the use of subtitles with the translations, it should be applied carefully, not in the long term, or only at lower levels. The participants claimed that all of them benefited from the dual subtitles in terms of listening comprehension, however, vocabulary acquisition was not improved in four of them. To sum up, it can be concluded that the use of the dual subtitles impacted listening comprehension positively, whilst the vocabulary acquisition was not quite satisfactory in terms of recalling the words and phrases orally.

### **Conclusion**

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The findings of this study, regardless of the limited sample have some practical uses. First, when teachers start employing YouTube with the language reactor learning tool, ESL learners, especially lower levels can benefit from using the dual subtitles. When the language reactor tool is connected to Google Chrome, it automatically translates and shows the captions, which makes comprehending the videos easier for both teachers and students. However, the long-term use of dual subtitles should be studied more as learners may rely on the captions rather than improving their hearing without any subtitles. Especially, the higher the level of the learners, the use of subtitles should be minimized. Since this study is limited to the elementary level, future studies can compare the difference between higher and lower-level learners to see the benefits.