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EFFECTIVENESS OF ENGLISH SONGS ON LEARNING ITS VOCABULARY

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Abstract. *This academic article studies the profound impact of music on English vocabulary development and investigates how songs can expand vocabulary, improve pronunciation, and create a deeper grasp of the English language by analyzing various studies and research findings. The paper emphasizes the significance of incorporating music into the language learning curriculum as a valuable instrument for vocabulary growth and linguistic enrichment.*

Keywords: *language learning, vocabulary, music, English.*

Introduction

Vocabulary is an essential area for pupils seeking to master English. The study's goal is to determine the effect of listening to music on student vocabulary mastery. The use of songs as a pedagogical aid in language learning has attracted attention for its efficiency in improving vocabulary acquisition. Music has a unique capacity to attract learners, making vocabulary acquisition more engaging and enjoyable. The purpose of the study is to look into how songs affect English vocabulary growth and the methods by which music aids language acquisition.

In general, songs might help expand a learner's English vocabulary. The repetition of words and phrases in song lyrics promotes memory retention, making it easier for students to recall and apply new terminology in context. Furthermore, the rhythmic and melodic elements of music can aid enhance pronunciation and intonation, resulting in stronger spoken language skills.

Literature review

Sari Yildirim (2023) assumes that one of the primary advantages of utilizing songs to teach vocabulary is the high degree of engagement and motivation they generate in students. Music fosters a positive learning environment, encouraging active involvement and increasing enthusiasm for language learning. Associating words with melodies and rhythms helps learners recall new vocabulary and stay motivated in their language studies. Songs provide insight into the social aspects of the English language by introducing students to idiomatic phrases, slang, and colloquialisms typically found in music lyrics. By immersing themselves in English

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songs, students develop a better knowledge of the cultural context in which the language is spoken, thus improving their overall language ability.

Regarding the effects of having students sing, various studies have reported positive effects on vocabulary learning in both children and adults. According to Busse (2018) focusing on studies with children, singing has been shown to help children who are recent immigrants to improve their L2 vocabulary recall. Focusing on adults, the between-subjects study by Ludke (2014) asked 60 English-speaking participants without any knowledge of Hungarian to learn 20 Hungarian phrases paired with English translations in a 15-minute listen-and-repeat learning task by either singing, repeating, or rhythmically reciting the phrases. The results showed that vocabulary learning was facilitated more by singing than by either repeating or rhythmically reciting. Finally, a classroom study by Yousefi (2014) also showed a positive effect of songs on L2 vocabulary learning. Sixty junior high school female L2 English learners in Iran were randomly divided into two groups, one that listened to a song and the other that listened to a recited version of the lyrics. Once again, the results revealed that, on average, the former group recalled more words from the target lyrics than the latter.

Practical Applications

Educators and language instructors can leverage the power of songs to facilitate vocabulary acquisition in English language classrooms. By incorporating music into lesson plans, teachers can create interactive and engaging learning experiences that cater to diverse learning styles. Activities such as lyric analysis, vocabulary exercises, and singing along can help reinforce new words and concepts in a fun and memorable way. Griffiee D. (1992)

Listening to music can have both positive and negative impacts on learning vocabulary, depending on the individual and the type of music. Here are some points to consider. Music can enhance your mood and create a positive learning environment, making it easier to focus on learning new vocabulary. Some studies suggest that music can improve memory retention, which could help with remembering new words and their meanings. Listening to music you enjoy can increase motivation and engagement, making the learning process more enjoyable.

Music with lyrics or a fast speed can be distracting, making it harder to concentrate on learning new vocabulary. If the music is too loud or demanding, it might interfere with language processing and comprehension. Some music may contain inappropriate language or themes that could negatively impact the learning environment.

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To effectively use music while learning vocabulary, teachers should consider some guidelines. Instrumental music or ambient sounds are less likely to be distracting compared to music with lyrics. Classical music or nature sounds are often recommended for studying. They may have to try different types of music to see what works best for their learners. For example, some people find that certain genres or specific songs help them focus better.

Conclusion

In conclusion, songs play a significant role in enhancing English vocabulary acquisition by providing a dynamic and immersive learning experience. Through exposure to music lyrics, learners can expand their vocabulary, improve pronunciation, and deepen their understanding of the English language. By harnessing the educational potential of songs, educators can enrich language learning environments and empower students to achieve greater proficiency in English.

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