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R.B.**THE ROLE OF AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS IN TEACHING ENGLISH****MR. RAJENDRA B. SHINDE**Associate Professor,  
Head, Department of English,  
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Ozar- MIG**ABSTRACT**

*A teaching aid is any piece of equipment that can be used to help the students learn. Teaching aids include black/ white boards, textbooks, charts, pictures, models, objects, wallpapers, tape recorders, CD players, movies, radio, television, computer, language laboratory, overhead projector (OHP), overhead transparencies (OHTs), multimedia, virtual classrooms, etc. . Thus there are numerous traditional and modern audio-visual teaching aids. Audio visual education or multimedia –based education (MBE) is instruction where particular attention is paid to the audio and visual presentation of the material with the aim of improving comprehension and creating interest. Audio-visual aids in the classroom can vary teaching methods and improve students' comprehension of English language and literature. Today's technology offers many choices to the informed educator who wishes to capitalize on a new generation's appetite for multimedia presentations. Lesson plans that incorporate the use of audio-visual aids should have harmony with curriculum objectives and planned properly. Any tool that helps to communicate an idea using sight and sound is an audio- visual aid. The use of these aids is now a vital part of speaking in public, whether in academic seminars and conferences, or business meetings and presentations. So it is important to know about different kinds of audio-visual aids and develop the skill to use them effectively. Good instruction is the foundation of any educational programme. Audio-visual training aids are a component part of that foundation. Hence an English teacher should know about the various audio-visual aids he can use successfully in teaching English. After the use of training films and other visual aids during World War II, audio-visual technology gradually developed in sophistication and its use became more widespread in educational fields such as schools, colleges, universities, museums and galleries. Innovation in foreign language teaching began in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and became very rapid in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It led to a number of different and sometimes conflicting methods, each trying to be a major improvement over the previous or contemporary methods. In the present century audio-visual aids play very important role in effective and interesting teaching- learning process.*

**Keywords:** Audio Visual Aids, Their Classification, Their Role in Effective Teaching-Learning English Advantages, Disadvantages, Etc.

**Objectives:**

1. To study the role of audio-visual aids in teaching English language and literature
2. To classify the audio-visual aids
3. To study the uses and benefits of the aids
3. To find out whether the aids are helpful in teaching- learning
4. To study the advantages and disadvantages/ drawbacks of the uses of the aids

**Methodology:**

Used the secondary data like books, reference books, internet resources, etc. for an analysis.

**Analysis:**

A teaching aid is any piece of equipment that can be used to help the students learn. Teaching aids include black/ white boards, textbooks, charts, pictures, models, objects, wallpapers, tape recorders, CD players, movies, radio ,television, computer, language laboratory, overhead projector (OHP), overhead transparencies (OHTs), multimedia, virtual classrooms, etc. . Thus there are numerous traditional and modern audio-visual teaching aids. Audio visual education or multimedia –based education (MBE) is instruction where particular attention is paid to the audio and visual presentation of the material with the aim of improving comprehension and creating interest. Audio-visual aids in the classroom can vary teaching methods and improve students' comprehension of English language and literature. Today's technology offers many choices to the informed educator who wishes to capitalize on a new generation's appetite for multimedia presentations. Lesson plans that incorporate the use of audio-visual aids should have harmony with curriculum objectives and planned properly. Any tool that helps to communicate an idea using sight and sound is an audio-visual aid. The use of these aids is now a vital part of speaking in public, whether in academic seminars and conferences, or business meetings and presentations. So it is important to know about different kinds of audio-visual aids and develop the skill to use them effectively. Good instruction is the foundation of any educational programme. Audio-visual training aids are a component part of that foundation. Hence an English teacher should know about the various audio-visual aids he can use successfully in teaching English.

Teaching aids should be accompanied with class-room teaching and these aids should be used as a supporting to the oral and written work being done in the class. While making use of any teaching aid the intellectual level of the students should be considered. Only then such aids will provide a stimulus to the students for greater thinking and activity. The teaching aid used should obey exact, accurate and real as well as practicable. The teacher should use a teaching aid only after a proper planning so that the aid is used exactly at the point, in the process of teaching, where it best fits in the process of teaching.

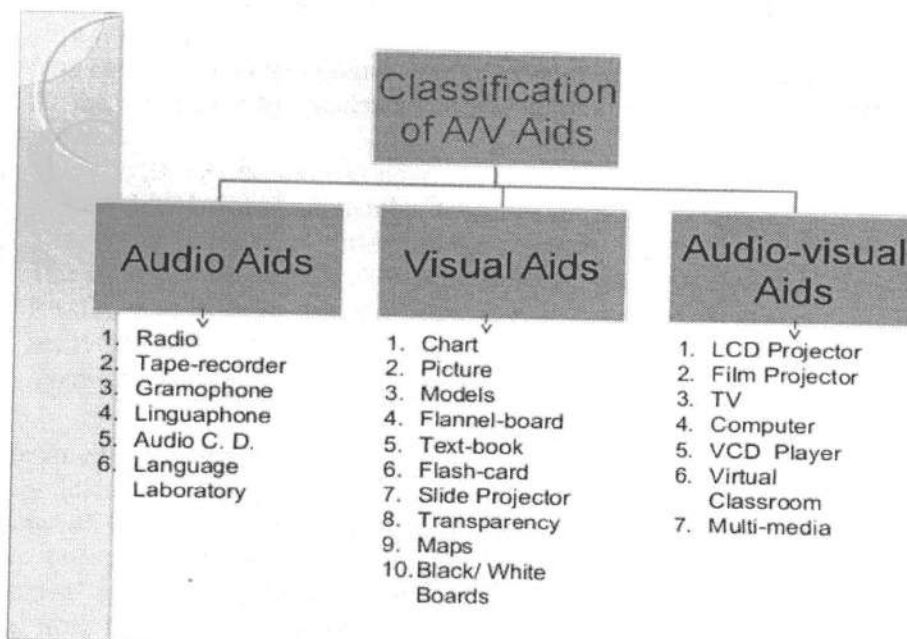
After the use of training films and other visual aids during World War II, audio-visual technology gradually developed in sophistication and its use became more widespread in educational fields such as schools, colleges, universities, museums and galleries. Innovation in foreign language teaching began in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and became very rapid in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It led to a number of different and sometimes conflicting methods, each trying to be a major improvement over the previous or contemporary methods. In the present century



audio-visual aids are very commonly used for effective teaching- learning. These teaching aids play a dominant role in the classroom for interesting and effective teaching.

In India English is taught as a L-2 (Second Language) in the some states, where mother tongue (S-1) is Hindi and in some states as L-3 (Third Language),where L-1(First Language) is mother tongue (regional language) , Hindi is L-2 ( National/ Second Language). As English is a foreign language students find it difficult to comprehend, so at primary level audio-visual aids like real objects, audio recorded rhymes, songs, charts, maps are very effective teaching tools. Blackboards are used as conventional teaching aids as they are available easily and affordable. The modern audio-visual aids are used consistently in the higher education. The teachers and the students use audio visual equipment's like overhead projection transparencies (OHPs),35mm slides, computer projection (Power Point Presentation, applications, such as Excel, etc.), flipcharts, black or white boards , sometimes use as scratchpads to expand on a point, video or film for presentation in teaching-leaning process to achieve the goal. The language laboratory, linguaphones, virtual classrooms, multimedia are advanced facilities in teaching English language, communication skills and literature.

### Classification:



Audio- visual aids are important in education system. Audio- visual aids are those devices which are used in classrooms to encourage teaching learning process and make it easier and interesting. Audio -visual aids are the best tools for making teaching effective and the best dissemination of knowledge .So there is no doubt that technical devices have greater impact and dynamic informative system. This study designed to analyze the effectiveness of audio visual- aids in teaching- learning process at university level. To achieve the purpose of study two questionnaires were designed as research tool separately for teachers and students. The questionnaires were administered to 150 students and 50 teachers of The Islamia University of



Bahawalpur, (faculty of arts and faculty of science). The score was calculated to determine the reaction of students and teachers on each item. The data was analyzed by using standard deviation and the test. The findings for each statement were made. On the basis of findings, the conclusion was drawn. It was found that (i) the respondents viewed that audio-visual aids play important role in teaching learning process, (ii) audio-visual aids make teaching learning process effective, (iii) the respondents viewed that audio visual aids provide knowledge in depth and detail, (iv) it brings change in class room environment, (v) it motivates to teachers and students. On the basis of findings of study, following recommendations were made: (1) Teachers may be trained for using audio visual aids (2) Teachers may plan before using audio visual aids. (3) University may provide proper facilities of audio visual aids. (4) Audio visual aids may be according to the level and interest of students. (5) Training may be provided to students for proper use of audio visual aids.

**Advantages:**

There are several advantages of using the following audio-visual teaching aids:

**Power point presentation:** are useful in the following ways:

1. You can explain difficult ideas through pictures, graphs, charts, objects, etc.
2. Your presentation will be more interesting because you are giving your students a variety of inputs.
3. You can focus on main points by highlighting them on the slides.
4. At the same time the students can pay attention on both the visuals as well as the presenter.
5. The visuals will be the reminder of the sequence of points of your presentation and you need not bother to remember them.
6. They create interest for learning in the students.
7. The students can develop their four skills of language such as Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing with the help of audio visual aids at primary, secondary, higher secondary and higher education levels. Computer assisted teaching -learning is very interesting and useful in acquisition of these skills of language.

**Auditory Learners and Aids:**

Auditory learners focus more on the spoken word rather than the written one. Taped recordings of lectures or communication skills are helpful to auditory learners because they pick up on speech nuances such as tone and pitch. Computers with speech-recognition devices will also help auditory learners to process and retain information better than just reading from a textbook. Students with hearing disabilities will also benefit from teachers who use microphones while lecturing.

**Visual Learners and Aids:**

Slide projectors have given way to PowerPoint presentations in the modern classroom, but the concept is the same. Visual learners understand meaning through graphic portrayals such as charts, illustrations and diagrams. Teachers that take the time to compose or find visual supplements to accompany their lectures help to greatly augment learning potential. The old saying that "a picture is worth a thousand words" still is true, especially in today's image-submerged society.

**Movie Clips:**

Incorporating a YouTube moment or any other instructional video clips into a lesson plan can greatly increase understanding as well as enjoyment during the learning process. If an interactive white board with Internet capabilities is not available, many video clips from the web can be downloaded and used in a PowerPoint presentation for classroom purposes. Be sure to prepare students before watching the clips by telling them what to expect or what to look for and then following up with discussion questions included in the lesson plan.

**Students with special needs:**

Students with special needs often require information to be presented to them in several different formats before they can adequately understand a concept or process information. Playing a book or a poem on tape while simultaneously reading together in class is a good way to reinforce material. Videos that deal with the targeted subject matter can be shown afterwards to further learning.

**Overall Benefits:**

1. The teaching-aids create interest for learning among the students.
2. They are time saving because they explain the difficult and abstract ideas easily and precisely.
3. By their use the burden, efforts and energy of teacher are reduced.
4. The teacher can improve his own English by audio-visual aids.
5. They are the sources of a variety of experiences for students.
6. English is a difficult language for Indian students as it is foreign language. Audio-Visual Aids make learning English easy.

**Disadvantages/ Drawbacks:****1. Don't overuse audio-visual aids:**

Audio-visual technology has an important role to play in the modern classroom, but teachers who depend too much on technology may actually restrain learning. The personal relationship between teacher and student is ultimately more valuable and rewarding in a brick and mortar classroom environment. This is not to say that there aren't some students who are quite capable of learning by themselves through interactive technology, but if that were true in all cases, then schools wouldn't need teachers.

**2. Lacks of facilities of audio-visual aids in rural and tribal areas in India:**

In India in rural and tribal educational institutions internet facility, computers, OHPs, and other audio-visual technologies are not available for teaching-learning. So they are deprived of these facilities. There is not sufficient trained teaching staff to handle these teaching aids. Many teachers of English hardly use audio-visual aids. Even the city-based educational institutions don't have enough virtual classrooms, language laboratory and number of audio-visual aids.



### Conclusions:

1. Audio- visual aids are very useful and beneficial in effective and interesting teaching-learning process.
2. Audio- visual aids are great tools to catch the attention of the students.
3. Various teaching aids should be accompanied with traditional teaching method.
4. Audio- visual aids should also not distract students from learning experiences. Priority should be given to the use of variety of teaching methods for students with varying preferences.
5. The students can comprehend and learn the difficult , vague topics, thoughts and ideas with the assistance of the audio- visual aids
6. The government should allocate special grants to all primary, secondary, higher educational institutes for purchasing audio- visual aids.
7. The teachers should use these available aids in effective and proper way.
8. Audio- visual aids facilitate teaching- learning process.
9. Rural and tribal students should not remain deprived of the facilities of the audio- visual aids.
10. Overuse of audio visual aids should not become the hindrance in the personal relationship between teacher and student which is ultimately more valuable and rewarding in a brick and mortar classroom environment.

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