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Podcasting technology in teaching Aviation English

This study examines podcasting technology and methodology for teaching Aviation English at high school. Podcasts were selected on aviation subject matter as supplemental teaching material. Podcasting technology was implemented into the elective course "Translation in the aviation industry" for students majoring in philology and translation at National Aviation University.

Podcast viewing has been increasing in popularity not only in the mainstream but also in higher education. Most universities, nationwide, continue to search for innovative ways to enhance their teaching and learning environment through digital technology. After the pandemic, collegiate academic teachers have turned to audiovisual technology to provide students access to course information at any time, from any location. Many teachers have chosen podcasts as a simple way of satisfying this requirement [2].

Podcasts are extremely useful for teaching English for Specific Purposes (ESP). This case study examines aviation podcasting technology. Its implementation helps students to [1]:

- enhance listening skills;
- motivate learning activity;
- boost aviation vocabulary;
- form aviation subject matter competence.

Podcasting technology in teaching English enables the creation of the virtual foreign language environment, so enrolled students have the opportunity to work with authentic aviation material (to listen to native speakers and get used to authentic speech). Aviation podcasts are interesting, informative, and up-to-date. The technology is convenient for both distance and class activity. In distance learning, an additional advantage of this technology is that the audio material listened to by students on their own can serve as a basis for further group discussion.

Let us consider *10 of the best-reviewed aviation podcasts* that can be used in teaching Aviation English [3].

1. Airline Pilot Guy Show (<http://airlinepilotguy.com/podcasts/>).

It's hosted by Jeff Nielsen, an airline captain from ACME Airlines. His podcast covers industry, travel-related stuff, incidents and accidents, and answers listener feedback. While Nielsen talks about his own experiences, he also brings in guests from other airlines to get their perspectives. The podcast is very consistent and is updated every week.

2. Airplane Geeks (<https://www.airplanegeeks.com/>).

It is a weekly show hosted by pilots and airplane enthusiasts Max Flight and Max Trescott who discuss all aviation matters. They are very knowledgeable about

the industry and often discuss urgent news of military and civil aviation. The podcast is fun and informative with plenty of laugh-out-loud moments.

3. The Fighter Pilot (<https://www.fighterpilotpodcast.com/>)

This podcast appeals to those interested in military aviation. It's hosted by retired Air Force fighter pilot Vincent Aiello. In each episode, he interviews aviation experts to discuss their experiences and careers with air combat.

4. Aviation Careers Podcast (<http://www.aviationcareerspodcast.com/past-episodes/>)

The show is hosted by an aviation ace, Carl Valeri, who has a great passion for the industry. He provides the information and inspiration on aviation jobs and careers.

5. The Finer Points (<https://www.learnthefinerpoints.com/podcast>)

A podcast is hosted by a renowned certified flight instructor, Jason Miller. This show is all about flying and covers topics about commercial, military aviation and spaceflight. They discuss everything from flight maneuvers to real-life lessons.

6. AMA Hangar Talk (<https://www.aopa.org/news-and-media/podcasts/podcasts/hangar-talk>)

Hosted by Ian Twombly and David Tulis, this best-reviewed podcast is for pilots, passengers, and all aviation fans. Focused on current events in aviation and interviews with pilots, mechanics, and other aviation enthusiasts, AMA Hangar Talk is a great way to stay informed and entertained.

7. Inspired Pilot (<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-inspired-pilot-podcast/id955053039>)

The Inspired Pilot is a podcast that aims to inspire, encourage and motivate students to keep their aviation passion burning. Its host, Marvyn Robinson, discusses various topics relevant to the aviation industry.

8. There I Was...(<https://www.listennotes.com/podcasts/there-i-was-an-aviation-podcast-aopa-air-v9lrw4BkC7/>)

This eye-opening podcast focuses on the real-life flying challenges pilots once faced. It tells about professional hardships rather than job glamour. Each episode is about thirty minutes to an hour long and is guaranteed to give you a good occasion to reflect.

9. Never Again (<https://www.aopa.org/news-and-media/podcasts/podcasts/never-again>)

This podcast is about the frightening side of the aviation industry viewed by pilots, mechanics, and other aviation professionals. While listening, you can learn about the troubles of flying and be ready to overcome them.

10. Pilot to Pilot (<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/pilot-to-pilot-aviation-podcast/id1208147571>)

If you dream of flying, this podcast is for you! A certified airline transport pilot named Justin Siems hosts it, and he is joined by renowned airline personalities that are sure to catch your interest every week.

The methodology of using podcasting technology for teaching Aviation English.

TPS (Think-Pair-Share) method.

TPS method helps students to think individually about a topic discussed in an aviation podcast and share thoughts with groupmates in pairs or the whole group. A partner/group discussion maximizes participation, focuses attention and engages students in comprehending the listening material.

How to use the TPS method in teaching Aviation English through podcasts?

Decide upon the aviation podcast to be listened to and develop the set of questions or prompts that target key content concepts.

Describe the purpose of the strategy and provide guidelines for discussions.

Model the procedure to ensure that students understand how to use the strategy.

Monitor and support students as they work through the following:

- T: (Think) Teachers begin by asking a specific question about the recording. Students “think” about what they know or have learned about in the aviation podcast.
- P: (Pair) Each student should be paired with another student or a small group.
- S: (Share) Students share their thinking with their partners. Teachers expand the “share” into a whole-class discussion.

CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) method.

CLIL method is a subject-focused approach where students learn a subject through a foreign language. An aviation course, for example, can be taught to students in English, and they will not only learn about aviation, but they will also gain relevant vocabulary and subject matter knowledge.

CLIL is content-focused, thus language teachers may also have to develop their own subject knowledge in order to teach effectively.

How can you apply CLIL to your class using aviation podcasts?

It’s important to have a teaching strategy. In CLIL method, the language and subject content are given equal weight.

A successful CLIL class should include the following four elements:

- Content. Each lesson should be dedicated to a specific aviation topic of a chosen podcast.
- Communication. Practise language skills with students to learn aviation.
- Cognition. Develop thinking skills which link concept formation and language.
- Culture. Explore the alternative perspectives and cultural background in the interviews with aviation experts.

Conclusion

Globally, podcasting technology may well provide high school educators and trainees with an efficient tool to help meet the escalating worldwide demand for highly trained translators in the aviation industry. Aviation podcasts viewed in the research enhance listening skills; motivate learning activity; boost aviation vocabulary; form aviation subject matter competence. Podcasting technology was implemented into the educational process through TPS and CLIL methods used in distance and class learning of translation students at high school.

References

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