Media as content for language learning at university: impact on language proficiency.

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Abstract

The paper outlines a course using the on-line editions of British newspapers as the content for teaching English at University where students experience live contact with language while improving their linguistic and academic skills.

Sample material from the course is quoted to exemplify what non-linguistic but related to academia skills are developed through this content. The impact on the language proficiency of the students is measured by pre- and post-course testing which reveals a good degree of progress. Questionnaires and attendance scores are used as evidence of what made the course appealing to the taste of students.