

Effect of Modern Technology on the Standard of English in Today's world

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The word technology is never a new word because we are presently living in the world of technology. The word 'technology' brings a lot of different ideas to our mind because we use it in our day today life for various purposes. The improvement in the field of technology has made our day today living easy pleasant and happy. From an infant to an adult people of all age groups keep using the modern technology in one way or the other for their everyday living. It's not wrong to say the development in the field of technology has not only made our life beneficial and worth living but it has also drawn us towards a negative sphere that has been unnoticed by us. Hence one can surely argue the good and bad sides of the use of technology, but it's evident that we must not remain ignorant of the bad influence that results from the ignorant side.

Technology is surely essential for human existence, we live in a fast moving world and time is one of the crucial factors that we value. Over the years advancement of technology has taken place at a very great speed. There are a lot of innovations and new gadgets that have entered the market. One more essential point that one can raise here is we have quickly adjusted our self to these developments over the years. If one must debate over the issue as to whether technology has put good or bad effects on the lifestyle, mind, language, communication, relations then surely one will find some evil effects that have resulted due to the overuse of technology and also the ignorance that has gone unnoticed from the same.

Language is one of the effective tools of communication. Any language for example has its own beauty and creativity and serves a purpose of its use. English is one language that has got an international repute because it is an effective language of communication worldwide. In a modern study English language has proved to be the most influential language. Technology has made a very great impact on this language in the 21st century. Today's younger generation is the one who are under its influence (bad and good). As we all know today's generation is referred as a 'techno-savvy' generation. Technology has become multi- cultural and globalised, and because of this the direct influence is on the use of language itself. The beauty of English language rests on the use of its vocabulary and the structure in which the various ideas are presented and put forth. But due to the casual use of the language without any structure and skill one can find a very different form of structure and usage very prominent in the language of texting. The influence can be seen in the form of shortened words and incomplete sentences with word of varied length becoming very small either to two or one alphabet and also the use of numerals in substitution of words or sentences. E.g.: before (b4), you (u), how are you (how r u?).

Today's younger generation is in the fore front of this language revolution. The state of an international language to come down to such a position is not a revolution but its ignorance.

The major reason is that technological innovation is always compared by progress and it is a belief that every innovation in the field of technology must have a marked difference. Andrew Davidson says thus “young people don’t see ‘tech’ as a separate entity – it’s an organic part of their lives”. Here is a short example of a conversation between two youngsters -

Jack: sup gal?

Betty: heyy!

Jack: how u been?

Betty: good wbu?

Jack: yer gr8

Betty: sweet!

Jack: hvnt seen u in like ages.

Betty: omg i know right

Jack: tk care

Betty: tku.....okie.

The following conversation could be a great debate as to whether its formal or an informal one, but surely one can say that the modern revolution of text messaging has brought about these results.

Young people use emoticons to express and convey emotions or lay emphasis. Hence more casual salutations are being used. Although one can say that chat and SMS are the text based forms of communication like the handwritten letter, they are used to engage in conversation on a near-real time basis. Hence it is believed that there is a need and therefore the informal style is commonly used. The use of acronyms which are frequently used in texting, chat and emails to minimize length and increase speed has given rise to new spellings. Basically it is found that the chat room conversation has come down to an average of ten or less than ten words. The concern is that this kind of influence has put down the value of English language. A lot of errors in spelling, grammar, syntax, capitalization, phonetic script have become common among the English users. The major concern is that the varied style in text messaging has also put a major effect on communication as well.

This component of text messaging in all forms has been a major component of debate from a long time. Observations are being made in both ways as its positive and negative sides. There was once a time when the focus was much on grammar, sentence structure, subject- verb agreement etc. But in today’s world as text messaging has become a unit of everyday

phenomenon no one is either serious or even today's education system more concerned. Many people have only debated over these shortened forms of writing and the new methods of writing techniques. It's a known fact that many language experts have studied these developments and many research studies have also been taken up with the related themes. But it's quite embarrassing to say that even after all possible assertions, studies and debate people compel themselves to use shortened words and sentences in texting language.

The immediate effect of this is on the modern day students of all streams as these age groups of students spend their time in group or individual texting. It's quite a known fact that the student group will never be aware of this problem. Another serious problem is that even regional language has been converted to English text with the words converted to English but pronunciation in a regional fashion. All these concerns have to be monitored by language experts and teachers as this will lead to serious long run problems in future. Students who are presently perceiving their education have to be made aware of this influence because later when they seek employment, language accuracy is one of the major requirements for good job opportunities. Technology and its development are essential but technological innovations are useful only until there are positive outcomes from it, if technology becomes responsible to destroy something then it's a question whether such a innovation is really necessary.

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