

HOANG THI PHUONG MAI

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EDMODO TO TEACH READING COMPREHENSION FOR 11TH GRADE STUDENTS AT VUNG CAO VIET BAC HIGH SCHOOL

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HOÀNG THỊ PHƯƠNG MAI

HIỆU QUẢ CỦA VIỆC ÁP DỤNG ỨNG DỤNG EDMODO ĐỂ DẠY ĐỌC HIỂU CHO HỌC SINH LỚP 11 TRƯỜNG PHỔ THÔNG VÙNG CAO VIỆT BẮC

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DECLARATION

I hereby certify that the thesis entitled "The effectiveness of Edmodo to teach reading comprehension for 11th grade students at Vung Cao Viet Bac high school" is my own research and the substance of this research has not been submitted to any other universities or institutions.

Approved by Supervisor

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ABSTRACT

This study was carried out with the aim to investigate the effects of using Edmodo on the reading comprehension competence of grade 11 students. The researcher conducted the study in 7 weeks with the participation of 80 students of grade 11. They have been learning English since grade 3, but most of them had difficulties in learning English, especially reading comprehension. The data of the study was gathered through qualitative and quantitative methods. The qualitative data was collected by analyzing result of students' questionnaire. Quantitative data was obtained from the students' scores of pretest and posttest. After intervention with Edmodo, the result of the post-test was remarkably higher than that of the pre-test. This indicated that most of students improved their reading comprehension competence. Besides, the questionnaire given after the post-test showed that a large number of students appreciated the effectiveness of using Edmodo application and had positive attitude toward learning reading comprehension. Finally, further some implications, limitations and suggestions for further studies were included in this study.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Rationale

Nowadays, the information technology is developing faster and faster. The introduction of web 2.0 has made a breakthrough for applications on the web environment. It is increasingly evident that social networking sites play an important role in our life. Moreover, social networking sites are also applied for education instead of only entertaining purpose. One of the social networking sites is Edmodo. Edmodo gives teachers the opportunity to create a sense of community in which they can build relationships with learners and communicate different kinds of information. Research studies about Edmodo have already acknowledged its potentiality and have documented many evidences that Edmodo can greatly help develop learners' language skills, especially in developing learners' reading and writing skills or vocabulary mastery.

For foreign language learners, developing language skills or mastering vocabulary are very important, but for students at high school, reading skill, especially reading comprehension is really essential because reading can support other skills in teaching and learning English. Reading will offer plenty of information as well as a large number of language expressions and structures which are very useful for developing other skills. For example, if the learners want to write or speak, they will have to read first in order to search the ideas for writing or speaking. No one can listen without reading, before listening; they must read the requirement carefully to know what to do. Therefore, it can be said that reading plays the most essential role in learning foreign language.

Constructing comprehension is difficult, particularly for English foreign language learners. It is very important to improve their comprehension by using appropriate teaching strategy and applications especially reading comprehension. Applying appropriately information technology in teaching foreign language is necessary. This makes learners more motivated as well as helps teachers and students interact more easily and effectively. There is a application that is very

popular right now whose name is Edmodo. Concerning the case, Haygood et al. (2012) define that Edmodo is a private micro-blogging service which provides a free and secure learning platform. It looks similar to Facebook, but is much more private and safe for a learning environment because it allows only teachers to create and manage accounts, and only their students, who receive a group code and register in the group, can access and join the group. This service is accessible through any mobile device with Internet capabilities including free apps providing a simple way for teachers and students in a virtual class to connect and collaborate. Via Edmodo, teachers can send out quizzes and assignments, give feedback, receive completed assignments, assign grades, store and share content in the form of both files and links, maintain a class calendar, conduct polls, as well as send notes and text (SMS) alerts to individual students or to the entire class. It also offers they can parent accounts in which view their children's homework assignments and due dates and receive updates on class and school events.

Being a teacher of English at Vung Cao Viet Bac high school, which is a boarding ethnic school with a lot of ethnic minor students coming from mountainous areas in the country, I have been aware of the importance of reading comprehension skill and I found that the students at my school are really afraid of reading exercises. Students had difficulties in finding the main idea of the text, supporting details, understanding the reference, and lacking of vocabulary. If they saw a long text they did not want to read the text, they just answered the questions without reading the text first. As a result, their score in reading comprehension is very low. In our school, the maximum score for the reading comprehension part in the test is about 4 points, but the students' score for this one is only 0,5 or 1 points. Therefore, I would like to conduct this study to help the teacher and the students to solve the problem as well as improve reading comprehension.

1.2. Aims of the study

The study focused on identifying the effectiveness of Edmodo in teaching reading comprehension for 11th grade students at Vung Cao Viet Bac high school as well as their attitude toward the application Edmodo.