

# THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS ON ADULT ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS' WRITING QUALITY: A META-ANALYSIS

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## KEY TERMS

### Educational Technology

*Educational Technology refers to a range of teaching-and-learning applications and hardware systems used for the purpose of increasing collaboration and improving learning and teaching*

## WHAT CAN I LEARN FROM THIS SECONDARY RESEARCH?

How educational technologies can affect writing?



## WHAT EVIDENCE IS SUMMARISED?

**21** independent studies from  
**16** publications were included in this review

## HOW CAN I USE THE FINDINGS IN MY TEACHING?

- Teachers can use technologies which facilitate collaboration between learners in different writing stages
- Technologies which encourage dissemination of and feedback on learners' writing are especially preferred because they increase authenticity of writing tasks

## WHAT DOES IT FIND?

- Technology can help English language learners improve their writing in terms of both content and language use
- Learners who are exposed to computer-based instruction wrote paragraphs of higher quality than their counterparts in traditional classes
- Collaborative creation of content on web pages can help learners with the content and the organization of writing
- Wiki-based environments can increase learners' collaborative engagement and involvement
- Collaborative environments also provide online corrections and space for peer feedback, which result in the improvement of vocabulary, language use and mechanics
- Blogging provides easy publication, rapid writing, and immediate interaction and improves the interaction between learners and teachers
- Nicenet-bulletin is another form of technology helping teachers to sort and give information to learners and help them generate better content for their writing
- Web-based blackboard courses facilitates searching, reading, and writing, as well as vocabulary and grammar learning
- Collaborative writing leads to higher quality of writing
- Collaborative writing improves team dynamics, team acquaintance, and instructor support
- Cognitive load related to collaboration can have negative effects on learners