A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW EXAMINING EFFICACY OF COMMERCIALLY AVAILABLE FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING MOBILE APPS



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Jodi M. Tommerdahl Chrystal Sapphire Dragonflame Amanda A. Olsen Computer Assisted Language Learning 2022

KEY TERMS

Mobile-assisted Language Learning (MALL)

The process of learning a language with the aid of mobile devices

WHAT EVIDENCE IS SUMMARISED?

8

studies

WHAT CAN I LEARN FROM THIS SECONDARY RESEARCH?

How effective are mobile applications in learning a foreign langauge?

WHAT DOES IT FIND?

- If learners are at the same level, using a particular mobile application that works on several areas of the target language can be more effective.
- If a mobile application is effective in learning one foreign language, it does not necessarily mean that the mobile application can be effective in learning another language.
- Most mobile applications are designed to improve vocabulary.
- Using a mobile application in addition to traditional teaching is not useful unless it aims to empower self-regulated learning skills and includes scaffolding activities.

HOW CAN I USE THE FINDINGS IN MY TEACHING?

- Teachers can design some assignments using a particular mobile application to foster learner autonomy.
- In order to provide learners with scaffolding, teachers should try the target mobile application before using it in order to find the challenging grounds and plan their instruction accordingly.





