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A Textual Analysis and Virtual Reality based Program to Enhance Faculty of Science Students' EFL Communicative Performance

برنامج قائم على التحليل النصي والو اقع الافتراضي لتنمية الأداء التواصلي باللغة الإنجليزية كلغة أجنبية لدى طلاب كلية العلوم

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This research aimed at investigating the effect of a program based on textual analysis and virtual reality (VR) environments on enhancing EFL communicative performance among Faculty of Science students. To achieve the aim of the research, the researcher adopted the quasiexperimental design of two groups: experimental (n=30) and control (n=30) from Faculty of Science Students, Mansoura University. The experimental group was taught using the study program that integrated immersive virtual reality scenarios with task-based text analysis activities covering all four language skills, while the control group received instruction using regular methods. The data obtained were statistically treated through the SPSS program. Results revealed significant improvements and differences between the scores of EFL communicative performance pre- and post-test, indicating an impact of the study program. The participants demonstrated enhanced EFL communicative performance skill. The findings suggested that the integration of VR with textual analysis provided an innovative and effective pedagogical framework, especially for the scientific students. The research contributed to the growing body of literature on technology-enhanced language learning and supported the utilization of immersive, learner-centered environments in alignment with Egypt Vision 2030 goals for quality and smart education.

Keywords: Textual Analysis, Virtual Reality, Faculty of Science Students, EFL Communicative Performance

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هدف البحث إلى دراسة تأثير برنامج قائم على تحليل النصوص وبيئات الواقع الافتراضي في تعزيز الأداء اللغوي لدى طلاب كلية العلوم. ولتحقيق هذا الهدف، استخدمت الباحثة التصميم شبه التجريبي، مع مجموعتين: مجموعة تجريبية (30 طالبًا) ومجموعة ضابطة (30 طالبًا) من طلاب كلية العلوم بجامعة المنصورة. تم التدريس للمجموعة التجريبية باستخدام برنامجًا يدمج سيناريوهات الواقع الافتراضي المعزز مع انشطة التحليل النصي القائمة على المهام بمهارات اللغة الأربع بينما تلقت المجموعة وياس الأداء اللغوي في اللغة الإنجليزية كلغة أجنبية. تم تحليل البيانات إحصائياً باستخدام برنامج SPSS. وأظهرت النتائج تحسناً ملحوظاً في أداء المشاركين في الاختبار النهائي مقارنة بالنتائج الأولية، مما يدل على فعالية البرنامج التدريبي. فقد تحسنت مهارات التواصل باللغة الإنجليزية لدى المشاركين. وتشير النتائج إلى أن دمج تقنية الواقع الافتراضي بتحليل النصوص يوفر منهجية تعليمية مبتكرة وفعالة، لا سيما لطلاب التخصصات غير اللغوية. ويساهم هذة الدراسة في توسيع المعرفة في مجال استخدام التكنولوجيا في تعليم اللغات، ويدعم تطبيق بيئات تعليمية تفاعلية تركز على الطالب، بما التكاشى مع أهداف رؤية مصر 2030 لتحقيق تعليم ذي جودة عالية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: التحليل النصي، الواقع الافتراضي، طلاب كلية العلوم، الأداء التواصلي في اللغة الإنجليزية كلغة أجنبية

Introduction:

In today's interconnected world, English proficiency is crucial for science learners, as emphasized by universities seeking to develop students' EFL communicative abilities. EFL communicative performance—defined by Yang (2020) as the capacity to use English effectively across varied situations—incorporates components such as grammar, vocabulary, fluency, pronunciation, and discourse. Canale highlighted Swain (1980) that communicative and competence blends linguistic knowledge with contextual appropriateness, while Crystal (2003) underscored its role in knowledge exchange and professional growth. Assessment dimensions, as noted by Gan and Humphreys (2018), include accuracy, fluency, coherence, appropriateness, and interactional skills. Harmer (2015) affirmed that strong communicative skills are essential for academic and professional success.

instructional Several . strategies support the development of EFL communicative performance. Taskbased language teaching (TBLT), for example, has proven effective: Wang, Zhang, and Liu (2020) found that TBLT significantly improved both performance and satisfaction among EFL learners. Corrective feedback—whether direct or indirect, from teachers, peers, or self-also aids skill development, with Li and Chen (2019) identifying teacher feedback as especially impactful. Additional approaches recommended by Zhang and Li (2021) include language exchanges and digital learning tools, which autonomous and interactive practice. Textual structural enhances learners' and functional further awareness, improving reading and writing proficiency.

Emerging technologies, particularly virtual reality (VR), offer immersive and engaging avenues for bolstering

EFL communicative skills. Lin, Chen, and Wang (2021) noted that VR creates low-risk, dynamic environments where learners can practice authentic tasks, bridging the gap between textual knowledge and practical use. Studies by Wu et al. (2020), Liang et al. (2021), and Huang and Li (2021) demonstrate VR's effectiveness in improving speaking, and pronunciation. fluency, accuracy, interactional competence. Park and Lee (2020) also highlighted its benefits for EFL writing. When integrated with textual analysis and supported by research from Chang et al. (2019) and Wu et al. (2019), VR holds significant potential for creating holistic, accessible, and satisfying learning experiences.

Context of the problem:

Science learners frequently face various challenges in developing and strengthening their English as a Foreign Language (EFL) skills. The problem addressed in this research was identified through the researcher's observations while working as an EFL instructor at the Faculty of Science, Mansoura University. Despite using instructional strategies like collaborative work, group discussions, and flipped classroom techniques, the following issues were noted: - Learners' performance in EFL writing tasks, both in class and as homework, was consistently unsatisfactory. - Many learners showed reluctance to speak or interact with peers during lectures, often providing incorrect or incomplete responses to spoken prompts, indicating a lack of confidence in oral communication.

Additionally, a review of existing literature confirmed that these learners commonly struggle to acquire effective EFL communication skills.

Statement of the problem:

Despite continuous efforts by experts in the field of TEFL, there remains a need for instructional practices that align with the demands of global advancements. Although a variety of traditional and modern teaching methods have been currently employed, many of these approaches fail to fully integrate the evolving role of technology, resulting in rigid instructional delivery and passive learner engagement.

Accordingly, the problem addressed in this research is that science learners demonstrate a low level of English communicative performance. To tackle this issue, the research explored the effectiveness of a proposed program that incorporated virtual reality and textual analysis, aiming to improve university science students' EFL communicative performance.

Aim of the study:

The study aims at developing the faculty of science students' EFL communicative performance through a proposed program based on textual analysis and virtual reality.

Significance of the study:

- 1. **For Learners:** It enhances English communication skills, builds academic confidence, and introduces the use of virtual reality as an effective language learning tool.
- 2. **For Educators:** It provides practical guidance for implementing VR programs, insights into student challenges, and inspiration to adopt modern, interactive teaching methods.
- 3. **For Researchers:** It motivates further investigation into how VR and innovative technologies can be used to improve language learning and teaching strategies.
- 4. For Curriculum Designers: It offers insights to develop modern, interactive English programs by

integrating VR technology, making learning more engaging and effective.

Definition of terms:

1-EFL communicative performance:

According to Richards and Rodgers (2014), EFL communicative performance emphasizes learners' ability to produce language spontaneously with fluency and meaningfocused expression rather than grammatical accuracy alone. Bachman and Palmer (2010) define it as effectively and appropriately conveying and interpreting messages within specific contexts to achieve communicative tasks. Celce-Murcia (2007) further describes it as the real-time application of communicative competence—demonstrating and strategic fluency, appropriacy, management interaction. In EFL settings, as noted by Canale and Swain (1980), it is the observable ability to engage in meaningful interaction, handle breakdowns, negotiate meaning, and adapt to socio-cultural demands.

Operationally, EFL communicative performance is the competency of the Faculty of Science students to effectively use English in academic, professional, and everyday contexts, focusing on fluency, accuracy, and appropriateness across all four skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

2-Textual analysis

Textual analysis is a research method, both qualitative and quantitative, in which researchers describe and interpret the characteristics of a recorded or visual message to understand its construction, meanings, and potential audience impact (McKee, 2003). It is a systematic process of deconstructing a text to examine its structure, language, rhetorical strategies, and ideological assumptions, usually within a specific context (Fairclough, 2003).

Within educational research, this method involves the close reading of documents, student writing, or textbooks to identify patterns, themes, biases, and the representation of knowledge (Coffey & Atkinson, 1996).

Operationally, textual analysis is a qualitative and quantitative research method that involves systematically examining and interpreting recorded or visual messages—whether written, spoken, or multimodal—to understand their structure, language features, underlying meanings, rhetorical strategies, and ideological assumptions within a specific cultural or social context, with applications in fields such as education where it helps identify patterns, themes, biases, and representations of knowledge in documents like textbooks or student work.

3-Virtual reality

According to Sherman and Craig (2018), Virtual Reality (VR) is a computer-generated, three-dimensional simulation that users can interact with in a realistic way through specialized equipment like head-mounted displays or sensor-equipped gloves. In education, Dede (2009) highlights VR as an immersive technology that creates interactive, synthetic learning environments, enabling experiential and situated learning by simulating scenarios that are otherwise impossible, dangerous, or impractical in the real world. Steuer (1992) further characterizes VR by its essential features: immersion or the feeling of presence in a digital world; interactivity, involving user manipulation and environmental feedback; and imagination, referring to the user's mental engagement within the virtual space.

Operationally, virtual reality (VR) is a computergenerated, three-dimensional, and immersive simulation that enables users to interact with and manipulate a synthetic environment in a seemingly physical way through

specialized electronic equipment, fostering experiential and situated learning by allowing engagement with otherwise impossible, dangerous, or impractical real-world scenarios, and is characterized by immersion, interactivity, and imagination.

Delimitations of the study:

This research was delimited to the following:

- a) A group of 60 students of the first level of faculty of science at Mansoura University who were divided into two groups (the experimental group and the control one).
- b) The required EFL communicative performance skills for the first level of faculty of science students at Mansoura University, those that were approved by the jury.
- c) English for science topics related to the students' study course.

The research design:

A quasi-experimental design with pre-test and posttest control and experimental group procedures was employed in this research. This approach allowed for the comparison of the experimental group, who received the VR-based and textual analysis-integrated instruction, and the control group, who received regular EFL instruction. The quasi-experimental design was deemed suitable for the naturalistic setting of the research.

Literature review and previous studies

In a globalizing world, proficiency in English is essential for academic and professional success, especially for learners in non-English-speaking countries. EFL communicative performance refers to the ability to use English effectively across listening, speaking, reading, and writing, emphasizing real-life communication rather than just grammatical knowledge. Key components include fluency, coherence, interactional competence, and pragmatic language use.

EFL and Communicative Performance:

Communicative performance can be understood through the following aspects:

- **Proficiency in Language Skills:** Involves both linguistic and pragmatic competence across the four core skills, developed through exposure and practice.
- Functional Use of Language: Focuses on conveying and interpreting messages accurately and appropriately in real-world contexts, including sociocultural nuances.
- Components of EFL Communicative Competence: Includes linguistic, discourse, sociolinguistic, strategic, multicultural, and professional competencies. Fluency, coherence, interactional competence, and pragmatic appropriateness are central elements.
- Holistic Approach to Language Learning: Integrates grammatical knowledge, pragmatic skills, and strategic competence, acknowledging the interdependence of language competence and performance.

Characteristics of contextual EFL communicative performance:

Communicative performance in EFL contexts involves various factors and competencies. Environmental factors significantly contribute to poor oral performance among learners (Seraj & Hadina, 2021). Effective communication requires socio-cultural awareness, linguistic knowledge, and the ability to construct coherent texts (Herdiawan, 2018). Communication skills are vital for demonstrating foreign language competence in real-world settings and can be integrated into instruction (Bubaš & Kovačič, 2019). The Communicative Language Teaching approach shows effectiveness in EFL contexts, though it has both advantages and disadvantages (Kasimova, 2019).

Key characteristics include:

- Fluency and Accuracy: These are central to EFL communicative performance. Fluency refers to smooth, effortless communication, while accuracy focuses on grammatical, vocabulary, pronunciation, and syntactic correctness (Robaina & Larenas, 2020). The balance depends on learner needs and contexts—fluency for daily interactions, accuracy for academic purposes (AL-Jarrah, 2022). Learners often prioritize fluency, believing accuracy improves over time (Riadil, 2019). Fluency, accuracy, and complexity form a triad for assessing proficiency in task-based teaching (Hasnain & Halder, 2024).
- Appropriateness: Rooted in communicative competence, appropriateness involves suitable behavior in specific communication contexts (Marcyński, 2020). Wu (2020) expanded this concept, emphasizing practical language use across categories like possibility, feasibility, appropriateness, and occurrence.
- Interactional Competence (IC): IC includes interactional patterns, resources, and strategies. It involves meaningful engagement, turn-taking, appropriate responses, and maintaining conversation flow (Young, 2009). IC assessment remains under-researched in some regions, like Saudi Arabia (AlQahtani, 2021). Its concepts influence TEFL, learning, and testing (Abdulrahman & Abu-Ayyash, 2019).
- Coherence and Cohesion: Coherence refers to logical idea flow; cohesion involves linguistic devices connecting sentences (Widhiyanto et al., 2023). Learners often struggle with these in academic writing (Mohseni & Samadian, 2019). Devices like repetition, transitions, pronouns, synonyms, and parallel structures aid textual unity (Alqasham et al., 2021). Teaching strategies, such as the Simple View of Writing, can improve these skills (Syarif et al., 2022).

- Pronunciation: This involves producing clear, intelligible sounds, including stress, intonation, and rhythm (Derwing & Munro, 2005). Pronunciation anxiety negatively impacts willingness to communicate, more so than motivation (Alimoradi & Adib, 2022). Foreign language anxiety correlates negatively with communicative performance components (Hamamorad, 2020).
- Motivation and Confidence: Motivation drives practice and improvement; confidence reduces fear of errors (Dörnyei, 2014). The ideal EFL self and international posture enhance self-confidence and intercultural communicative competence. Metacognitive strategies also support competence development (Ghasemi et al., 2020).
- Sociolinguistic Competence: This involves awareness of cultural norms, idiomatic expressions, and politeness strategies. It is crucial for avoiding cross-cultural misunderstandings but often underdeveloped due to classroom and material challenges (Gulomova, 2020). It deals with social appropriateness and natural language use (Dewi, 2021; Faradilla & Rukmini, 2019).
- Functional Competence: This is the ability to use language for specific functions (e.g., requesting, apologizing, persuading) (Celce-Murcia, 2007). It relates to pragmatic aspects of communication (Riazi, 2021).
- **Strategic Competence**: This focuses on pragmatic functions and strategies to maintain conversations, such as paraphrasing, gesturing, and asking for clarification (Dewi, 2021; Faradilla & Rukmini, 2019).
- **Discourse Competence**: This involves constructing coherent, cohesive longer texts (spoken or written) by organizing ideas and using discourse markers effectively (Richards, 2006).

These characteristics collectively enable effective and efficient communication in various contexts. Enhancing them is crucial for developing overall language proficiency and achieving communicative competence.

Recent studies by researchers such as Seraj and Hadina (2021) and Herdiawan (2018) emphasize that EFL instruction should address environmental, psychological, and linguistic factors, with technology playing an increasingly important role in teaching and assessing oral communication skills.

Alafifi (2020) demonstrated through a quasiexperimental study that Professional Learning Community practices significantly improved student-teachers' oral performance, while Masadeh (2022) found educational games to be effective in enhancing EFL communication by increasing motivation. Mohammed (2021) advocated for a blended approach combining traditional and e-learning methods, highlighting the importance of teacher involvement and student motivation.

Further research by Dahniar (2023) and Hadijah and Shalawati (2019) focused on tailored instructional materials and communicative programs to address specific student needs, such as vocabulary acquisition and confidence building. Puspa et al. (2020) used a longitudinal design to show significant improvements in communicative competence over time, and Ismael et al. (2023) found that Blended Content-Based Instruction led to a notable increase in oral communication skills. Deswila et al. (2020) supported the effectiveness of the Content and Language Integrated Learning approach in science classrooms, demonstrating improved language proficiency through mixed-methods analysis.

Collectively, these studies underscore the importance of innovative teaching methods—including collaborative

learning, gamification, technology integration, and tailored instruction in enhancing EFL communicative abilities. They highlight the critical role of EFL communicative competence in meeting globalization demands and achieving 21st-century learning goals, emphasizing that sustained, context-sensitive approaches are essential for student success in academic and professional environments.

Teaching strategies and approaches for enhancing EFL communicative performance:

Research by Nourdad and Hosseini (2022) highlights discrepancies in strategy use: learners favor compensatory strategies, while teachers prefer stalling or time-gaining techniques. These findings underscore the need for teacher awareness and appropriate strategy implementation, as well curriculum and material design that communicative and strategic competencies (Nourdad & Hosseini, 2022; Chanh, 2023). The discussion emphasizes holistic, context-sensitive approaches to address both opportunities and barriers in EFL communicative development.

Technology integration for improving EFL communication skills:

Technology integration significantly enhances EFL communication skills through tools like blogs, podcasts, and online platforms such as Google Meet, which improve speaking listening abilities (Ravshanovna and Ixtiyorovna, 2023; Ngo & Ha, 2022). These digital facilitate meaningful learning. resources comprehension, and support efficient time management (Gherdan, 2022). Online conversation rooms and chat functions were particularly beneficial during the COVID-19 pandemic, enabling continued practice despite social distancing (Ngo & Ha, 2022). Technology also allows for

blended learning methodologies and increases learner motivation (Gherdan, 2022), though educators must remain mindful of implementation challenges (Syathroh et al., 2021).

In conclusion, thoughtful technology use supports deeper understanding of language structures and improves integrated skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing), benefiting both academic performance and readiness for international discourse. Further innovation in teaching methodologies is essential for comprehensive communicative development.

Challenges and solutions in developing EFL communicative competence:

Learners face multiple challenges in developing EFL communicative competence, including lack of engagement in online settings (Abd Rahman & Razali, 2024), insufficient practice, shyness, limited exposure to English, and L1 dominance. International learners, particularly from China, struggle with anxiety, culture shock, and academic adjustment issues (Xiuwen & Razali, 2020). Instructors in contexts like Pakistan and China cite learners' substandard prior knowledge, leading to overuse of local languages in instruction, while misalignment between curriculum, teaching, and assessment promotes exam-oriented practices that hinder communicative growth (Saleem et al., 2023).

Proposed solutions include adapting course design for online platforms (Abd Rahman & Razali, 2024), integrating technology-assisted learning, developing intercultural communicative competence (Xiuwen & Razali, 2020), and implementing learner-centered instruction with updated syllabi (Saleem et al., 2023). These strategies aim to create supportive, practice-rich environments that address both linguistic and psychological barriers.

Assessment methods and instruments for EFL communicative performance:

Assessing EFL communicative performance requires diverse methods tailored to context and skills. In online settings, tools like Blackboard are preferred despite technical issues (Almutairi & Elsawy, 2023), while performance-based assessment offers benefits alongside implementation challenges (Altukruni, 2022). For junior high schools, communicative models like oral interviews, role-play, guessing games, storytelling, and oral reports are validated as practical, relevant, and continuous (Yustina et al., 2021). These approaches emphasize the need for varied, context-appropriate assessments.

There is growing recognition of the value of alternative assessment techniques alongside traditional tests (Gkogkou & Kofou, 2021). Principles of Communicative Language Teaching should guide assessment, incorporating both traditional and alternative methods (Kaçar, 2023). Technology, such as Google Forms, enables efficient, detailed authentic assessment despite scoring limitations (Sari et al., 2020), and environmental factors must be addressed in oral performance contexts (Seraj & Hadina, 2021). A balanced, technology-informed approach is essential for effective EFL communicative performance assessment.

TEFL textual analysis:

Textual analysis in TEFL integrates both quantitative and qualitative methods to examine how texts present language and cultural content. For instance, it has been used to compare curriculum guidelines (Rao, 2023) and analyze biases in textbooks, helping educators refine teaching objectives and instructional materials to better support language proficiency and comprehension.

Perception of EFL Textual Analysis

Interest in promoting critical competence in EFL has driven the search for consistent and integral instruments, with textual analysis emerging as a key method. This approach facilitates EFL reading comprehension, critical thinking, and cultural awareness by breaking texts into components—linguistic, cultural, and stylistic—to examine their nature, significance, and worth within cultural or consensus frameworks.

Textual analysis allows learners to deconstruct and reconstruct texts, enhancing understanding and engagement. It serves as a synthetic study of textual features, such as referral and semantic relationships, treating the text as a major linguistic unit. This process not only aids comprehension but also helps learners avoid manipulation and bias in media-political discourse (Harutyunyan, 2022), fostering more autonomous and critical engagement with content.

Basic Concepts of Textual Analysis

Textual analysis involves understanding language, symbols, and visuals within texts to uncover how people communicate and make sense of life experiences. These messages often reflect or challenge broader historical, cultural, political, and ethical contexts, requiring analysts to consider social structures influencing the text (Fairclough, 2003). It is a qualitative methodology that provides insights into meaning construction and is central to cultural and media studies (McKee, 2001; Wall, 2006).

In education, textual analysis is vital for developing language proficiency and critical thinking. It includes evaluating textbooks for effectiveness (Vitta, 2023), designing tasks for literary text analysis (Burlakova et al., 2023), and applying text-linguistic methods to improve comprehension and expression (Karabacak, 2021). In

A Textual Analysis and Virtual Reality based Program to Enhance Faculty of Science Students' EFL Communicative Performance translation, it ensures accurate understanding and functional output by examining both extratextual and intratextual factors (Seresová & Breveníková, 2019).

Importance of EFL Textual Analysis

Textual enhancement techniques, such as modifying text appearance, improve readers' ability to identify key information enhance and overall comprehension (Wicaksono 2023). et al.. These methods pragmatic vocabulary. grammar. and competence development (Guo, 2023) and help learners navigate mediapolitical discourse to avoid bias (Harutyunyan, 2022). Systematic textual analysis is essential for discourse analysis and social research, offering benefits across diverse methodologies (Fairclough, 1992).

Research shows a strong correlation between languageproficiency and textual analysis abilities, with higher proficiency learners demonstrating better comprehension of vocabulary, grammar, and discourse structure (Peifeng & MK, 2023; Wang & Puteri, 2023). However, studies like Lee and Jang (2020) and El-Dakhs et al. (2019) indicate that textual enhancement's effectiveness can vary by context and skill, underscoring the need for further research and tailored instructional strategies to maximize its potential in diverse learning environments.

Steps, procedures and stages of text analysis method:

Recent research highlights several key steps for textual analysis in TEFL. Meadows and Gutierrez (2022) stated that linguistic analysis techniques can identify gaps between learners' proficiency and coursework demands. Peifeng & MK (2023) emphasized that higher language proficiency, including vocabulary, grammar, and discourse comprehension, is crucial for effective text analysis.

Furthermore, Buzarna-Tihenea (2020) underscored the role of text analysis procedures, such as examining lexical cohesion and collocations, in selecting appropriate ESP teaching materials. Yusmalinda & Astuti (2020) add that various methods, including grammar-translation and project-based learning, are effective, with teachers needing to plan strategies in advance and contextualize the learning process to meet all learners' needs.

The method is formally structured into three distinct stages:

- 1- The **pre-reading stage** involves studying the title to predict content, identifying the author and their historical context, and determining the text's purpose and direction. 2-2- The **during-reading stage** is the most comprehensive, requiring silent and careful reading to grasp the general idea, extract difficult vocabulary, and read aloud for grammatical control. It also involves identifying the text's structure (introduction, topic, and conclusion) and its main and secondary ideas. This stage includes a detailed syntactic analysis of sentence types and grammatical relationships, as well as a semantic analysis of literary images and styles.
- 3- Finally, the **post-reading stage** focuses on synthesizing the text's overall meaning by narrating it in paragraphs, proposing alternative endings, extracting related provisions, and evaluating the effectiveness of the language used.

Textual Analysis and EFL Communicative Performance

Recent studies explore how textual analysis enhances communicative performance. Jahan & Kormos (2015) found that textual enhancement aids in developing metalinguistic knowledge, though it may not fully address complex formfunction mappings. Abdullah et al. (2022) demonstrated that genre-based multimodal text analysis fosters multimodal communicative competence. Peifeng & MK (2023) and Yalmiadi & Telaumbanua (2023) collectively highlight the

A Textual Analysis and Virtual Reality based Program to Enhance Faculty of Science Students' EFL Communicative Performance positive correlation between language proficiency and text analysis abilities, noting that the concept of "textuality" is a

crucial yet often overlooked aspect of EFL writing instruction.

Several empirical studies provide evidence for using technology to boost speaking performance. Asratie et al. (2023) studied the effects of tools like YouGlish and FORVO, using a quasi-experimental design and ANOVA, and found a significant 20% improvement in fluency. Zhang et al. (2021) investigated vlog-based activities using t-tests, reporting a 15% average increase in speaking performance and higher student engagement.

Rahman (2020), in "Enhancing EFL Learners' Communicative Competence through Autonomous Learning Models," used MANOVA and found a 25% improvement in communicative competence and increased learner autonomy in the experimental group. Jahan and Govindasamy (2023) used ANOVA and eye-tracking to show that textual enhancement significantly improved learners' acquisition of noun and verb phrases. A meta-analysis by Qiu et al. (2024), "The Effects of Virtual Reality on EFL Learning," calculated a moderate to high positive effect (Cohen's d = on communicative performance. Finally, Al-Shammari and Sahiouni (2023) and Revesz et al. (2021) used t-tests and repeated measures ANOVA, respectively, to demonstrate significant gains in syntactic development and morphological knowledge from textual enhancement techniques.

Virtual Reality and TEFL

Virtual reality (VR) is a transformative technology that creates immersive, computer-simulated environments for interactive learning (Wu, 2024; Dalal, 2024). Its components include hardware like head-mounted displays

'(HMDs) and software for 3D rendering and audio processing (Lai, 2024). The historical development of VR in education is rooted in learning theories like constructivism and experiential learning (Marougkas et al., 2023; Dreimane, 2019). Despite initial barriers like cost, bibliometric analyses show a substantial increase in VR educational research since the 1990s, with applications expanding across medicine, engineering, and language learning (Araiza-Alba et al., 2022; Roda-Segarra et al., 2022).

The educational benefits of VR are significant. It enhances learner engagement, knowledge retention, and skill development across STEM, medical training, and language learning (Begum, 2024; Leong et al., 2023). Specifically for TEFL, studies by Monteiro & Ribeiro (2020), Wilang (2019), and Chen & Hsu (2020) show VR improves vocabulary acquisition, motivation. independent learning by providing realistic, immersive scenarios. It fosters contextual learning, connecting content to real-world situations to boost academic motivation and critical thinking (Melinda, 2020; Asmara et al., 2019). This creates dynamic, interactive environments that combat classroom boredom and promote deeper understanding (Handayani & Bahri, 2024; Abdelhalim et al., 2020).

Integration of Textual Analysis and Virtual Reality in TEFL

The integration of textual analysis and VR offers a powerful, multifaceted approach to language learning. Theoretical foundations for this integration include sociocultural theory and embodied cognition, which

emphasize experience-oriented learning (Lan, 2021). A framework combining constructivism and cognitive load

theory has been proposed to optimize VR-based language learning (Song et al., 2023). This combination allows students to critically examine linguistic structures through textual analysis while experiencing contextualized language use in immersive VR environments, thereby enhancing both cognitive and communicative skills.

The advantages of this integration are numerous. VR enhances user experience through multimodal sensory integration, improving performance (Martin et al., 2021). In language teaching, this blend creates a comprehensive learning environment that improves students' communicative performance, metalinguistic awareness, and academic self-efficacy. Research by Goudarzi et al. (2014) and Golparvar & Khafi (2021) shows that self-efficacy and metacognitive awareness are strong predictors of language performance. By empowering students in their language learning strategies through this integrated method, their overall language proficiency is significantly improved. Text-mining analyses by Guzsvinecz & Szűcs (2024) and Loureiro et al. (2020) further highlight the value of combining textual analysis with VR across various research domains, solidifying its potential to revolutionize TEFL.

The Study Material:

(A textual analysis and virtual reality based program)

Aim of the study program

The study material aimed at enhancing the Faculty of Science students' EFL communicative performance, metalinguistic awareness, and academic self-efficacy. The program integrates textual analysis strategies with virtual reality (VR) environments to create an interactive learning experience.

Description and content of the study material

The instructional content was designed based on both communicative language teaching principles and disciplinary academic needs. Scientific texts, case studies, abstracts, articles, lab reports, VR scenarios simulating academic presentations, group work, and lab discussions and Task-based worksheets aligned with each skill and topic. Materials were scaffolded and sequenced according to language difficulty and academic complexity (see Appendix M).

Designing the content and the study materials

The program is tailored for science students in an academic setting, aiming to bridge the gap between foundational English skills and the high-level communicative demands of scientific discourse.

The core philosophy driving the content design was experiential and immersive learning. Each lecture of the 16-lectures was not merely a lesson but a simulated real-world academic scenario—from international conferences and research seminars to laboratory libraries and writing centers. This approach ensured that students didn't just learn the language; they practiced it in contextually rich, authentic, and low-stakes environments that mirror their future academic and professional lives.

The Program task-based activities

The program consisted of 16 instructional sessions (180 minutes each), distributed over 12 weeks. Each session included:

- **Pre-task activity**: Activating background knowledge and presenting new vocabulary or concepts.
- Task activity (while-task): Engaging in VR simulations or textual analysis.

• **Post-task activity**: Debriefing, reflection, peer feedback, and output refinement.

Administration procedures

1-Preparation Phase (Pre-task)

This phase prepared students for the main task by:

- Introducing objectives, expectations and task instructions.
- Teaching target language structures and vocabulary.
- Modeling the task through demonstrations or short videos.
- Allowing students to plan and discuss strategies.
- Introducing VR technologies and content

2-Implementation Phase (While-task)

During this phase, students:

- Engaged in the primary task using VR technologies or textual resources.
- Collaborated with peers in pair or group work.
- Practiced real-time decision-making and communication.
- Received supportive monitoring from the instructor.

3-Evaluation Phase (Post-task)

This final phase encouraged students to:

- Reflect on their performance and the learning process.
- Present their work to peers or submit written outputs.
- Receive constructive feedback from the instructor.
- Revise and self-assess using provided rubrics.

Results of the study

Based on the hypotheses and data provided, the study results are as follows:

• The experimental group showed significant improvement in all English language skill areas (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) from the beginning to the end of the program.

- The experimental group performed significantly better than the control group in all English language skill areas after the program.
- The program had a strong positive impact on the development of English language skills.
- findings revealed statistically significant The improvements in all three domains for students in the experimental group who participated in the study program, in comparison to their peers in the control group who followed conventional instructional methods. These results underpinnings the theoretical support of constructivist, socio-cognitive, and task-based language teaching approaches, as well as the increasing pedagogical interest in immersive and technology-enhanced learning.

Educational and National Relevance: The study program directly addresses challenges faced in Egyptian university-level English language education, especially for students in scientific disciplines. Furthermore, the study aligns with the strategic objectives of Egypt Vision 2030, particularly in its emphasis on:

- Digital transformation in higher education,
- Promoting student-centered, technology-integrated instruction,
- Enhancing graduates' employability and scientific literacy in English,
- Supporting smart education and AI readiness in the national agenda.

In summary, the research provides robust empirical evidence that a Textual Analysis and Virtual Reality-based program can serve as an effective intervention for improving the linguistic, and affective dimensions of English language learning among science students. The program's holistic approach—combining deep language

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- analysis with immersive, interactive simulation—supports learners in becoming competent communicators.

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