A Study on the Informal Learning of English Majors based on English Learning App

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ABSTRACT. Under the general trend of education reform and educational informationization, English teaching began to seek innovative development paths. At present, in the various media situations, English majors begin to rely more on modern technology, and informal learning has begun to rise in English learning. In informal learning, the learning model based on the English learning app is one of the main manifestations. This mobile learning-based English learning model is currently being sought after by students and has achieved good results. However, based on the requirements to further advance the learning style, relevant scholars need to study it more deeply to ensure a more scientific teaching mode. This paper focuses on the all-round exploration of the informal learning model based on the English learning APP.

KEYWORDS: English learning; learning App; informal learning

1. Introduction

The application of mobile technology in the current English teaching process has become more and more popular, and has achieved good application results. And in the current development of the teaching model, the teaching and research personnel of English majors must thoroughly explore the informal English learning model. New media and new technologies are the development trend of the times. English professional teaching and research personnel need to fully study and English, and rely on professional English learning APP to ensure the effectiveness of English informal teaching. With the support of various new teaching and learning media, English teaching will advance and develop in a more innovative direction.

2. Overview of English informal learning

2.1 Definition of informal English learning

Informal learning has been promoted in the current learning model, and the in-

depth study of the informal learning connotation in the English major can be seen, which specifically refers to the non-teaching nature of the path when teaching English knowledge. The specific informal learning path includes English knowledge transfer in the context of work, life and social. It is a self-motivated English learning model, which requires learners to be highly conscious and follow the basics of self-initiation, self-regulation and self-responsibility in principle.

2.2 The importance of informal English learning forms

For English learners, formal learning is the main learning path when learning English, but informal learning cannot be ignored in terms of improving students' English learning effectiveness. Through informal learning, learners can effectively acquire English learning experience, and at the same time, they can choose their own learning content, so they can improve their English level in a targeted manner. English informal learning can be regarded as a bit of English learning mode, and can effectively stimulate the learning interest of English learners. Compared with formal learning, informal learning can more arouse students' knowledge of English. The emphasis is on a more effective form of learning.

Combined with the current situation of English teaching, most colleges and universities have the phenomenon that they cannot fully meet the individualized and diversified needs of students, and the overall teaching mode of teachers is relatively simple. In addition, teachers can't form a positive interaction with students, and students can't share new learning results in time. There are more restrictions on English learning activities. On the basis of the rapid development of information technology and efficient application, various special English learning applications have begun to appear, and have been widely used in English professional learners. It can be said that the emergence and application of informal English learning APP enables current English majors to obtain more three-dimensional and personalized learning content, and at the same time, it can broaden the English learning path and English knowledge horizon. The emergence of informal English learning APP can effectively fill the gaps in teaching and learning, and it is worthy of being widely promoted.

3. Learning APP supports the application of informal learning in English

3.1 Vocabulary learning APP

In the current informal English learning app, there are a large number of APPs dedicated to the development of APP content for English learning vocabulary, among which more well-known include hundreds of words, ink and ink words and scallop words. In the above APP, all of them contain a large amount of English vocabulary, and are classified according to different standards, which can meet the English vocabulary learning requirements of different groups of people. Take Baicizhan as an example, the APP has a very new development concept, that is,

when a learner learns the tasks that need to be learned every day, the vocabulary memory mode can be "snapped" for the words that have been completely mastered. To improve the learner's interest in learning. In addition, for each English vocabulary APP, there is a wrong vocabulary thesaurus, learners can conduct personalized learning and review, and each app also has a friend interaction platform, everyone can exchange learning experience and get higher Learning passion. In the process of specific English teaching, teachers should pay attention to let students understand the corresponding vocabulary learning APP. Students should actively choose a certain APP according to their own needs, and pay attention to self-assessment, realize scientific repetition of words, and finally remember and apply the word reasonably.

3.2 Audio and video learning APP

Audio and video is one of the main ways for English majors to study informally in English. The ultimate goal of English learning is to be able to speak English fluently. Based on this, there are a large number of audio and video learning classes in the current English learning APP. Among them, the most famous ones include English fluent, lazy English and English fun dubbing, while the video English learning APP can point to the Chinese University MOOC and Netease Open Class and other general learning classes, and the special English video learning app includes Akaso English, TutorABC English tutor, etc. In the above APP, the English listening training mainly includes the following modes, including knowledge extension, English context, etc., which can broaden the students' knowledge of English while listening to the students. Based on the above comprehensive English audio and video learning app, it can meet the needs of most English professional learners. With the support of these English learning apps, learners will be able to learn English in a fragmented manner, concentrate on listening training, and speak English boldly in the app to understand their own pronunciation and other deficiencies. And improve the level of English listening and speaking in constant improvement and practice.

3.3 Learning API based on news client

In the era of big data, there are more ways to access information, and English learners can also acquire relevant English learning knowledge through different paths. In the English learning class APP, the English learning class APP based on the news client is this mode. Specific APPs include English Daily, English for News, VOA Slow English and Voice News. The above-mentioned APPs have the characteristics of quick information acquisition and convenient operation, and can also be read offline, breaking the time and space limitations. In the above-mentioned news client-based APP, all of them have relatively new consultations, and have vivid colors, including text, pictures and short videos, which are highly attractive to English learners. The above-mentioned news client-based learning APP can also be connected with the learner's WeChat, QQ and other social software, thus having

high interactivity and realizing timely communication of English learning. In the news-based English learning app, learners can learn new vocabulary and grammar based on reading news materials, and can link English learning content with social life and current affairs information, so as to continuously expand the boundaries of English learning.

3.4 Interactive learning mode based on WeChat APP

Research on informal English learning, from the learning class APP, we can know that there is a special English learning APP, and through another dimension, social related APP can also meet the needs of informal English learning, which is represented by WeChat. It can help improve the teaching methods of English, improve the speed of information reception, and enhance the interaction between learners. WeChat is an APP software with large information capacity, wide coverage, fast propagation speed and strong cyclic interaction. In English teaching, teachers can use it as a teaching medium to realize the exchange of English learning resources and the exchange of English learning experience through the WeChat platform. In addition, WeChat is able to effectively integrate teaching resources and present teaching resources in text, data and images. Wechat's two-dimensional code function, WeChat group function and WeChat public number and WeChat applet can support more efficient English teaching and learning activities. Teachers can record micro-courses before class and forward them to the WeChat group. Students can use the micro-courses to prepare for the difficult points in advance, and also can carry out corresponding after-school consolidation. Under the WeChat app, teachers should strengthen the informal learning design. Teachers should mainly apply the micro-courses, summarize the knowledge points learned, and strengthen the interpretation of the difficult points, which can help students achieve real-time learning. At the same time, teachers should maintain a good English learning group and be able to communicate with students in a timely manner. Teachers should also register the WeChat public platform for English learning, and regularly push English learning resources and related information. In addition, teachers should pay attention to building interactive classrooms with the support of WeChat APP to improve students' initiative in learning English. Students should also actively raise their own doubts in the learning course based on WeChat, and actively conduct group discussions, thus providing students with a more autonomous learning model.

4. Conclusion

The English learning model in the new era has undergone a major transformation, and informal learning has gradually received the attention of English learners. The related English learning app based on informal learning can be regarded as a mobile English learning paradigm, which can meet the mobile learning needs of English learners, and can realize fragmented learning and targeted learning for English. The informal English learning app has more powerful functions and can meet the individualized learning needs of English learners. English majors should be aware of

the need for informal learning based on English learning APPs, enhance the use of free time, improve the interactivity of English learning, and ultimately improve the effectiveness of English learning.

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