

THE EFFECTS OF MALL ON L2 PRONUNCIATION LEARNING: A META-ANALYSIS



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Author

Wen-Ta Tseng
Sufen Chen
Shih-Ping Wang
Hsing-Fu Cheng
Pei-Shan Yang
Xuesong A. Gao

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WHAT CAN I LEARN FROM THIS SECONDARY RESEARCH?

What is the effectiveness of using MALL to facilitate L2 pronunciation learning?

KEY TERMS

Mobile-assisted Language Learning (MALL)

Using personalised mobile technologies (e.g., smartphones, laptops) to facilitate language learning.

WHAT EVIDENCE IS SUMMARISED?

13 studies

WHAT DOES IT FIND?

- MALL holds a lot of promise in terms of fostering learners' ability to pronounce a foreign language accurately and naturally, but to optimize its effect, teachers should scaffold learners to understand how to pronounce a word correctly.
- Both basic and intermediate language proficiency levels can benefit well from the use of mobile devices for L2 pronunciation.
- MALL was almost twice as effective at improving students' productive ability (orally pronounce words) than their receptive ability (comprehend or recognise the consonants and vowels).

HOW CAN I USE THE FINDINGS IN MY TEACHING?

- Pedagogically, MALL offers portability, connectivity and individuality. Various innovative pronunciation activities, using mobile devices, can be adopted into curricula and lessons by language teachers.
- Mobile devices can help students to mimic, repeat, and record words anywhere at any time. While MALL can be effective in the classroom, it is slightly more effective in a naturalistic context i.e., outside of the classroom.
- MALL-based pronunciation programme of even just 1 month can show positive results. But smaller positive effects are found toward the end of prolonged pronunciation programmes as learner motivation and interest may begin to wane.

