

**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF AUDIO AND VIDEO MATERIALS IN DEVELOPING  
LISTENING COMPREHENSION SKILLS IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

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**Abstract:** Listening comprehension is a key element of foreign language learning, as it provides learners with essential linguistic input. Using audio and video materials in instruction greatly supports the development of listening skills by offering authentic and engaging content. Audio exposes learners to natural speech, pronunciation, rhythm, and intonation, while video adds visual cues such as gestures and situational context that make understanding easier. These multimodal resources enhance both bottom-up and top-down processing, boost motivation, promote cultural awareness, and support autonomous learning. When used effectively, audio and video materials become powerful tools that strengthen listening proficiency and enrich the overall language learning experience.

**Keywords:** listening comprehension, foreign language teaching, audio materials, video materials, authentic input, multimodal learning, communicative competence, motivation, cultural awareness, language acquisition.

**Introduction.** Listening comprehension is a core component of foreign language proficiency, forming the foundation for the development of other communicative skills. Although listening naturally precedes speaking, reading, and writing, traditional language classrooms have often emphasized grammar and reading, leaving learners unprepared for understanding spoken language in real-life contexts. With the rise of technology and the availability of multimedia resources, audio and video materials have become powerful tools that create more authentic, engaging, and effective listening environments.

Modern learners are constantly exposed to digital and audiovisual content, making the integration of audio and video documents highly relevant[1]. Audio materials—such as podcasts, interviews, radio broadcasts, and dialogues—provide learners with natural speech models, helping them develop phonetic recognition, intonation, and the ability to understand connected speech. Video materials, including films, TV shows, news reports, and authentic recordings, add visual cues such as facial expressions, gestures, and situational context, which significantly support meaning-making and cultural understanding. These multimedia resources also increase motivation, sustain attention, and create learner-centered activities. By offering rich linguistic input, they engage both bottom-up processing (decoding sounds and words) and top-down processing (using context and background knowledge), helping learners cope with fast speech, unfamiliar vocabulary, and diverse accents. Additionally, audio and video materials

contribute to intercultural competence by exposing learners to authentic cultural norms, social behaviors, and communication styles that textbooks cannot fully convey. Another advantage of multimedia materials is their flexibility. Learners can replay, pause, or slow down recordings, which supports autonomous and differentiated learning. Visual, auditory, and even kinesthetic learners benefit from various activity types such as note-taking, role-playing, and scene reconstruction [2]. Modern platforms, apps, and online tools further enhance listening practice through subtitles, transcripts, and interactive tasks, allowing learners to receive immediate feedback. Regular exposure to authentic audio-visual input not only improves listening comprehension but also positively influences pronunciation, speaking fluency, vocabulary acquisition, and overall communicative competence. However, effective use of these materials requires careful selection based on learners' proficiency and needs. Teachers should provide appropriate scaffolding through pre-listening preparation, clear task instructions, and strategy training.

**In conclusion**, audio and video materials play an essential role in developing listening comprehension in a foreign language. Their ability to provide authentic input, support multiple learning styles, promote cultural awareness, and increase motivation makes them indispensable in modern language education.

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### INTERNET RESOURCES

1. <https://www.researchgate.net>
2. <https://owl.purdue.edu>
3. <https://www.linguisticsociety.org>
4. <https://www.cambridgeenglish.org/learning-english>