INTRODUCTION

Language is God’s special gift to mankind. Without language human civilization as we now know it, would have remained impossible. It is ubiquitous.

Innovation in language teaching began in the nineteenth century and became very rapid in the twentieth century. It led to a number of different and sometimes conflicting methods, each trying to be a major improvement over the previous or contemporary methods. Several types of methodologies have been applied in language teaching. Some have fallen into relative obscurity and others are widely used; still others have a small following, but offer useful insights. Most books on language teaching list the various methods that have been used in the past; often ending with the author’s new method.

The educationists have worked out different methods of teaching. By acting upon them a teacher can make his work easy and more diverse. He becomes efficient in his job and work. There are many different ways in which the teacher or trainer can make the learning experience more interesting and memorable for learners. Enthusiasm, combined with interesting and diverse teaching methods, will motivate a student to learn more. One such technique is to use teaching aids.

These are the things used in the classroom to aid teaching and training. These are useful to reinforce what you are saying, to ensure that your point is understood, signal what is important or essential, enable students to visualize or experience something that is impractical to see or do in real life, engage students in the other senses learning process and facilitate for different learning styles. It is said that we learn and retain 10% of what we read, 20% of what we hear, 30% of what we see and 50% of what we hear and see. Higher levels of retention can be achieved through being actively involved in learning.
ELT is a global affair now and it has undergone many changes from time to time. The tremendous growth of internet technology and multimedia expression has gained substance in the field of education especially in ELT as learning and teaching tools. Technological innovations have gone hand in hand with the growth of English and are changing the way we communicate, work, trade, entertain and learn and it is non-native users of English, frequently from the Asian countries, who are arguably at the heart of this. Similarly, Arab world has also realized the importance of technology in the global economy where knowledge has become the engine of growth and developments. They are so widespread that one feels outdated if it is not being used by them. The effect of these powerful technological tools has pervaded all span of business and economical segments of our life. There is no doubt that just as the computer has established itself strongly in the field of business and information technology, it has also succeeded in achieving a fundamental role in the educational process.

Coming to the English Language Teaching (ELT), it has been with us for many years and its significance continues to grow fuelled by the internet. It is fair to assert that the growth of internet has facilitated the growth of the English language and this has occurred at a time when computers are no longer a domain of the dedicated few, but rather widely available to many. This role is becoming more powerful as computers have become cheaper, smaller in size, more adaptable and easier to handle. Computers and web based activities in ELT are becoming more appealing to teachers because of their huge capabilities and extensive effectiveness.