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**AMAZING APPS TO LEARN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

Abstract

With so many web apps out there, learning a foreign language has become much easier. Managers of industrial enterprises could use the potential of these apps to improve their knowledge of foreign languages.

Key words: a web app, native speakers, download, subtitles, Chrome extention.

Анотація

З такою кількістю веб-додатків вивчення іноземної мови стало набагато простішим. Менеджери промислових підприємств можуть використати потенціал цих додатків для вдосконалення знань іноземних мов.

Ключові слова: веб-додаток, носії мови, завантаження, субтитри, розширення Chrome.

With all those amazing web apps out there, it is quite easy to learn a foreign language. I would like to highlight some of them.

The first web app is Hello Talk [1]. This is one of the best free app that you can use to chat with native speakers. It is just like having, for example, WhatsApp on your phone where you can literally chat with native speakers all around the world at any time. You just go on there, create a profile and you are ready to go to chat with anybody around the world. You will have to type the language you are learning and the language you speak as a native speaker.

Once you have that set up, you are ready to chat and speak to people from all over the world. Being able to converse with native speakers in the very beginning is one of the best things you could do right from the start when you learn a language and don’t want to wait until you are more advanced in the language.

Don’t think that you have to be more advanced in order to speak with a native speaker. This should be really a priority right in the beginning when you are just learning a language that you try to speak to native speakers as much as possible.

Hello Talk is absolutely free, so download the app, and start talking with people from all over the world.

The second great app, this is not so much an app, but more so a Google extension is Toucan [2]. This awesome apps extension helps you to learn languages while you are simply browsing the web. Once you are done with the installing the extension, what you are doing is choosing one of the five languages you would like to learn and from there on, you start browsing the web. While browsing the web, the words you hover over will be translated into the language you chose. For instance, if you chose Spanish, once you browse through the web and you have English words there, you will hover over them and the words will pop up in Spanish with not only the translation, but the pronunciation as well. So you can listen to how the words are pronounced in Spanish.

This is a great extension for literally everyday use. You just turn it on and start browsing the web and you’ll learn so much unconsciously because I always emphasize the importance of not only having the time set aside to study and learn, but incorporating language learning in your everyday task and whatever it is that you are doing. This is one of the best extensions to browse the web while learning a language – you learn new words, you can save them, track them later on. Also, you can track your overall process, so this is absolutely amazing for learning new vocabulary and it is free.

Another great Google Chrome extension I have come across is called Language Learning with Netflix (LLN) [3].

Whenever you are watching Netflix, I know that subtitles are not that great on it. So I usually turn on LLN and can literally watch any Netflix series and it will be translated with subtitles in the same language or you can put the subtitles in the language you want to translate it into. The subtitles are so accurate and on top of that you can hover over the words and it will show you not only their meanings, but their pronunciation as well.

The extension is also free.

Another great app to learn languages is Babbel [4]. It has a paid option, but it also has a free option. If you want to have the basics of the language, then you can just simply use Babbel for free and later on, if you want to dive deeper, then you can use the premium option. But the free option is good for learning pronunciation, different vocabulary.

A great app not so much to learn a language, but to improve your writing skills is Grammarly [5]. It is a Google Chrome extension and is extremely useful for those who would like their writing to be mistake-free, clear and concise. Grammarly looks for mistakes based on six different styles of writing. In short, it is an online proofreading app, which checks for spelling, grammar and punctuation errors.

Grammarly is useful both for students and teachers. The app detects mistakes in spelling and punctuation that are quite difficult to notice.

Also, the app easily deals with prepositions, which is a big relief. Grammarly points the words you overuse as well as the passive voice.

The app has a built-in Plagiarism checker, and alerts you to use citation to avoid this problem.

Another amazing free app is Hi Native. It is an app that allows you to put questions to a large pool of native speakers. Initially, it was developed as a mobile app, but now you can use it on your computer, laptop or tablet.

Users put questions about the language they are studying to many native speakers who have signed up for this app. To facilitate this process, the app provides you with many templates to help you build a question in the language you are learning, which is great.

Also, the app has the “Bookmark” feature. It comes in handy for those who ask a lot of questions. You can look at and search the questions you have asked.

The “Notification” feature is very convenient: as soon as your question has been answered, you will be alerted.

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