

When young people are on the Internet, they feel 'connected' to people and the world knowledge. In the classroom, they can feel 'disconnected' and 'isolated'. They sometimes feel that school isn't particularly relevant to their lives.

Such socialization means the wide spread usage of SNS (Social Networking Service) by youth and elder people too. Facebook, Orkut, Ning, Twitter, Myspace, Friendster are some of the most popular Internet sites today. These sites contain groups where you can search for other students or learners who are pursuing similar goals. Links, ideas, sites and media sites are exchanged.

Among all these social networking websites Facebook is the best one as 90% of Internet users go to the Facebook. There are many groups in Facebook with only one goal: to learn English. Many people go there to share their knowledge, to share their ideas about English and others ideas. Chatting with others in English also helps to improve language skills. Among all these sites there are special social networks aimed at teaching English via communication. They are: QQ International, Italki.com, VoxSwap.com, Lang-8.com – these sites provide language exchange among their users. “Get answers to your questions, get corrections of your writings, share free resources, and more” – says the welcome page of Italki service. Moreover users are able not only to learn a language, but to teach others their native language too. For

example, if there is a Japanese studying English and an American studying Japanese, the American can correct the English entries of the Japanese, and the Japanese, in his/her turn, can correct the written entries in Japanese made by the American. It makes teaching/learning languages simpler and takes less time than traditional teaching methods. It is also very beneficial to be taught and corrected by a native speaker of the language you are studying. In this way, the positive effect of IT on helping English learners is obvious and it is hard to underestimate it. Taking into consideration that the number of people involved online is continuously increasing, the popularity of such services is a matter of time. Besides, the most of SNS are free to use that is another *pro* for their spread.

The ability to communicate in a foreign language is an increasingly critical skill, and Internet is radically changing rules how a language can be learned. While globalization is making foreign language skills a necessity, social networks are making their mastering easier. With SNS, anyone, anywhere in the world can learn a language for free.

#### *References*

1. <http://www.clickz.asia>
2. <http://indiastudyplace.blogspot.com>
3. <http://italki.com>
4. <http://www.teachingenglish.org.uk>