



# **The Universal Scholar Journal**

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**THE UNIVERSAL SCHOLAR JOURNAL** (*Peer Reviewed Journal*)

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## **Punjabi Language- Web based learning Tools**

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Punjabi is one of the top 15 languages spoken worldwide, according to statistics. Over time, this rating has changed, ranging from 10 to 18. With over 90 million native speakers and over 140 million speakers in 150 countries worldwide, Weber's (1997) article titled "The World's 10 Most Influential Languages" honors Punjabi as one of the top 10 languages in the world. Many countries with Punjabi immigrants speak Punjabi, including Pakistan, Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, and India.

Despite being a required school subject in Punjab, Punjabi is losing momentum against English. About 40% of pupils who passed the Class 12 Punjab board exam in 1995 chose Punjabi as an elective, according to The Tribune (November 25, 2017). This dropped to 24% by 2017. One important contributing aspect is that more students are opting to major in business or science. However, there is dishonesty inside the humanities community as well. In 1995, 46% of arts students chose Punjabi as an elective; by 2017, that number had dropped to 35%. However, the problem begins early because a significant portion of Punjabi children come from rural areas where the quality of instruction in public schools is very low. According to Pratham, a reputable NGO that works to provide quality education for the impoverished, at least 46% of Class 4 children were unable to read books (in Punjabi) from Class 2. 20% of students couldn't read the text from Class 1, and 4.4% of students didn't even know the alphabet till Class 3.

According to The Tribune (August 31, 2018) as many as 27,659 children who had Punjabi as their mother tongue failed the subject in this year's Class X Punjab State Education Board exams, down the pass rate from 93.35% to 91.77%.

It is also important to closely watch and analyze how Punjabi is taught and learned in schools. When teaching Punjabi, it is undeniable that the teacher gains from using a range of instructional strategies. Teachers are far more picky when it comes to teaching methods in the current scientific and technological era. They must employ an appropriate technique, strategy, and

style of instruction if they wish to make teaching and learning meaningful. Web-based language learning is one such approach.

As stated by Jonassen (1996), "when students study with equipment, it converts a mind tool." He describes "mind tools" as "computer-based learning environments and tools that have been modified or created to serve as knowing partners with learners to engage and support advanced order learning and critical thinking."

Achievement in Punjabi can be raised by combining technology with conventional classroom teaching methods. In order to teach Punjabi to school students, web integrated learning is quickly becoming a viable teaching and learning method. .

### **Web based Language Learning**

Web based learning refers to all educational initiatives utilizing the internet (or a local intranet), and it includes three main configurations or categories: instructional, online discussion forums, and virtual achievements. According to McKimm et al. (2003). Web-based learning, which includes online course content, is frequently referred to as online learning or e-learning. The internet makes it feasible to participate in discussion boards via email, have video conferences, and stream live courses. Web-based courses may also offer static pages similar to printed course materials.

The term "web-based education" (WBE) refers to all facets and elements of education that make use of the World Wide Web as a communication tool and auxiliary technology. WBE is referred to by a variety of different names, including online education, virtual education, Internet-based education, and education through computer-mediated communication (Paulsen, 2003).

Web-based learning is a style of education in which different learning tasks are carried out using the Internet as a means of delivering instruction. Depending on the needs and requirements of the curriculum, it can either take the form of (1) pure online learning, where the curriculum and learning are implemented online without face-to-face meetings between the instructor and the students, or (2) a hybrid, where the instructor meets the students half of the time online and half in the classroom. Web-based learning can be added as a supplement to conventional courses or integrated into a curriculum that develops into a full-fledged course (Zheng, 2008).

The most common way that teachers utilize the Internet in the classroom is to look up Web resources to learn new knowledge. The Web can significantly contribute to the development of a

resource-rich environment by giving Punjabi a wide variety of exposure. The teaching-learning process is made more successful by integrating the web into classroom activities, which can be especially beneficial for students. Any Web-browsable material, data, and applications can be easily and quickly integrated into portals, wireless devices, and Web services through web integration.

### **Web Integrated Language Learning Resources for Punjabi Language Learning**

The concept of "Web Integrated Tools" in Punjabi refers to resources and applications that have been specifically developed to support and improve Punjabi-language web-based activities and experiences. These resources can be used in a variety of settings, such as language processing, creating material, communication, and user experience. It involve two types of Web integrated language resources which are Premade Resources and Activity based Resources that can be involved, created and used. Which are given below-

**Pre-made Web Resources:** There are a number of convenient and cost-free Punjabi language practice resources on the web, which include Web tools Applications, blogs, YouTube channels, audio files, and graphic images that can use to assist students in improving their learning environment. Some of the best web integrated learning resources that teacher can use are given below:

#### **Webtools**

- I. **Mentimeter:** With Mentimeter teachers can create Quiz questions, Spinning Wheels, Question Answer and Word clouds. Results are anonymous therefore students can submit answers without fear of Judgement (Hanifan, 2020, Gavranovic & Michos, 2022).
- II. **Animoto:** Animoto is a free classroom tool for educators, students, and administrators to create and share videos with your class, with parents, and beyond. No software downloads required. It lets teachers to use videos as part of their lesson plan and also allows students to create visually creative presentations (Gavranovic & Michos, 2022).
- III. **Kahoot:** Kahoot is a live Engagement tool where teacher can turn boring lesson into a game to motivate the students. Kahoot Website create a playable game with questions and answers. Students can download the app to use as a buzzer to join in (Gavranovic & Michos, 2022).

- IV. **Quizizz:** Provides gamifies learning content that creates more engaging and immersive Learning. Quizizz significantly improve Educational outcomes and reduce ramp-up time. With AI creating or importing content into Quizizz takes only minutes, With Quizizz, Learner can engage in live sessions or remote learning. Learners receive instant feedback, which can be used to further improve the content (Gavranovic & Michos, 2022).

### **Educational Applications Funded By the Punjab Government**

Information and communication technology (ICT) is an effective tool for learning Punjabi. There is software available that supports the Punjabi script, like Akahr. Many websites, such as Punjabi pedia, are helpful aids for learning Punjabi. Unicode software makes it simple to input keywords in Punjabi script (Kaur, 2017). The educational applications funded by Punjab Government are: Punajab Educare App: The Punjab Government's "Punjab Educare App," which evolved to enhance schoolchildren's education, has set an entirely novel standard for online learning. E-Learn Punjabi App: The Punjab School Education Board launched a website for online Punjabi study in order to promote and support the teaching of Punjabi around the world. iScuela learn Mobile App : Engaged in partnership with the Punjab State Government and Rotary India Literacy Mission (RILM) to digitize and digitalize all 19,272 public schools throughout the Punjab State (Jain & Padmapriya, 2025; Kaur, 2017).

### **Punjab Educare App**

The Punjab Government's Punjab Education App was developed to improve school education and set a completely new standard for online learning. More than 350 million people have already seen it. On average, more than 87,000 people visit the site every day. Over 1.6 million people have downloaded and are currently using the app, mainly students and instructors, highlighting its importance (Directorate of Information and Public Relations, Punjab, India, 2017). On July 11, 2020, Punjab Educare was launched to support online education for students. Interestingly, it was a team of school teachers from Jalandhar - Deepak Kumar, Jaswinder Singh, Harjit Kumar, Haridarshan Singh, Chander Shekhar, and Omeshwar Narayan, having no IT background or expertise support, who initially developed the 'Punjab Educare App' with their sheer dedication coupled with indigenous innovations. To overcome the challenges of remote learning, teachers from Punjab without any budgetary planning and IT expertise designed this learning app which

soon became the epicenter of digital education in the state and gradually adopted by many other states of India. For accelerating the pace of qualitative improvement in education and to make teachers well-versed in the use of advanced IT applications, capacity-building programs were organized by the Education Department (The Tribune, July 11, 2021).

The app is a one-stop solution to the accessibility of study materials. It provides systematically organized study materials, including books, audio/video courses, and daily assignments on all subjects. This is a user-friendly app that eliminates the worry of losing the useful learning materials provided daily by the Ministry of Education. It is an additional tool for teachers and students. Teachers and students can easily access course materials, PDF books, audio/video lectures, worksheets, assignments, word wall activities, quizzes, and study materials for competitive examinations (NTSE, NMMS, PSTSE, etc.). It provides a curriculum for pre-primary to XII years, test questions, daily slides, and homework assignments for all classes. In addition to the data about teaching resources, the application also provides learning results. All course materials, textbooks, videos, and Edusat lectures on various subjects were also published under the Second and Second Secondary Wings. It helps teachers and students to recapitulate any topic as often as they like.

According to Singh (2022), “Punjab Educare App” became the state's digital education hub and was adopted by many other Indian states to overcome remote learning challenges. Kaur et al. (2021) also noted that the "Punjab Educare app" is cost-effective, teacher and student-friendly, and best suited for delivering prescribed curriculum to transfer information and develop skills, aptitudes, and interest to continue education in difficult times. All Punjab secondary schools and the public had access to technology-based digital courses, which improved student academic performance, and were scored 4.4 out of 5 on a 5-point scale. The digital modules that have been produced in this state have emerged as prominent pioneers and exemplars inside the nation.

The main features of the Punjab EduCare App are as follows: It provides a learning resource store with all the study resources of the main subjects of pre-primary to XII classes, contains not only online text-based learning material but also video lessons delivered by the experts in the field, It is compact, easy to use and promotes perfect coordination between teachers and students, keeps parents up-to-date about their children's performance, Bilingual features make use more convenient. In addition to interactive and virtual learning, there are also day thoughts,

daily assignments, Udaan competition examination series, question bank, examination series, national talent search examination, and national merit scholarships scheme (Directorate of Information and Public Relations, Punjab, India, 2017).

**The Punjab EduCare App offers a variety of functions including:**

- I. **Curriculum:** The app provides access to the Punjab state curriculum for all grades which includes textbooks, notes, and practice questions (Ranjit, 2023).
- II. **Videos:** The app offers a library of educational videos that cover a variety of topics. These videos are created by experts and can help students learn in a fun and engaging way (Ranjit, 2023).
- III. **Quizzes:** To assess student's knowledge, the app offers a variety of quizzes. These quizzes are aligned with the Punjab state curriculum and can help students identify areas where they need more practice (Ranjit, 2023).
- IV. **Discussion forums:** Students can post questions in the app's discussion boards and receive answers from other students and teachers. This is an excellent opportunity for students to learn from one another and receive assistance with their coursework (Ranjit, 2023).
- V. **Individualized Education Plan:** Plans for each student's education can be created. The student's success on tests and other evaluations can be planned. This aids pupils in concentrating on the areas where they most need assistance (Ranjit, 2023).

The Punjab Educare app is a helpful tool for Punjabi students because it provides a variety of features that can help students learn and prepare for exams. The app can be downloaded and used without charge on both iOS and Android-powered smartphones. This app can enhance pupils' academic achievement.

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