

EVALUATING THE SAMR MODEL FOR ENHANCING ICT INTEGRATION IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING AT THE TERTIARY LEVEL: A SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW

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ABSTRACT

Significantly impacted education, necessitating effective integration into teaching practices. This study examined the application of the Substitution, Augmentation, Modification, and Redefinition (SAMR) model to evaluate ICT integration in English Language Teaching (ELT) at the tertiary level. The research aimed to determine whether the SAMR model could enhance pedagogical practices beyond mere technology substitution and how it compared with the Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge (TPACK) model. This study addressed the issue of stagnant ICT integration in ELT, hypothesizing that the SAMR model provided a more robust framework for transformative technology use compared to the TPACK model. The study's purpose was to assess the SAMR model's effectiveness in advancing ICT integration in university-level ELT. Objectives included comparing SAMR with TPACK and identifying barriers to effective ICT use. A systematic literature review was conducted using six electronic databases covering the past decade (2013-2023). The review followed PRISMA guidelines with defined inclusion and exclusion criteria. Preliminary results revealed that while the SAMR model offered the potential for enhancing teaching practices, many educators remained at the substitution stage, mainly replacing traditional methods with technology without significant pedagogical changes. Challenges included insufficient training, institutional resistance, and lack of support. The findings underscored the need for extensive training, supportive policies, and continued research to improve ICT integration in higher education. This study contributes to understanding effective technology integration and provides recommendations for institutions seeking to elevate their teaching practices through meaningful ICT adoption. This research offers insights and practical recommendations for enhancing technology integration in higher education, focusing on overcoming current limitations and advancing teaching methodologies through the SAMR model.

Keywords: English Language Teaching, ICT Integration, SAMR Model, TPACK

INTRODUCTION

The rapid advancement of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the 21st century has had a profound impact on various sectors, with education being one of the most affected. As ICT becomes increasingly integrated into teaching practices, educators must possess the knowledge and skills to effectively apply these technologies in both classroom and extracurricular settings to achieve educational objectives (Kihzoza, Zlotnikova, Bada, & Kalegele, 2016; Wahyuni, Mujiyanto, Rukmini, & Fitriati, 2020; Setyaningsih, Wahyuni, & Rochsantiningih, 2020). A critical aspect of this integration is the enhancement of key student competencies—communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity—skills that are essential for leveraging the vast information

available online (Aprinaldi, Widiaty, & Abdullah, 2018; (Tunjera & Chigona, 2019).

Several studies highlight the critical role of ICT in education and the need for effective integration. Voogt and Roblin (2012) argue that successful ICT integration demands a paradigm shift in teaching methodologies, advocating for frameworks that support pedagogical change rather than mere technological adoption. They emphasize that technology should augment teaching practices rather than simply replace traditional tools. This perspective is echoed by Hattie (2009), whose meta-analysis reveals that the impact of technology on learning is contingent on its integration into effective instructional strategies.

Romrell, Kidder, & Wood (2014) emphasize that discussions around ICT often focus narrowly on selecting appropriate online teaching platforms, rather than on how these platforms can fundamentally enhance learning quality. They argue that technology should be utilized not just as a replacement for traditional methods but as a means to improve pedagogical outcomes. Crompton and Burke (2020) further support this view, noting that many online platforms are used merely to replicate existing teaching methods without leveraging technology's transformative potential.

Mishra and Koehler's (2006) Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge (TPACK) framework highlights the importance of blending technological, pedagogical, and content knowledge for effective teaching. However, Harris and Hofer (2011) critique TPACK for its complexity and insufficient practical guidance, suggesting that it requires further refinement to support effective technology use in education.

In contrast, the Substitution, Augmentation, Modification, and Redefinition (SAMR) model proposed by Puentedura (2013) offers a structured approach to evaluating ICT integration. The SAMR model categorizes technology use into four stages: substitution, augmentation, modification, and redefinition. It posits that while substitution and augmentation enhance existing practices, modification and redefinition enable transformative changes in teaching and learning processes (Caukin & Trail, 2019). Despite its potential, many educators and institutions remain at the substitution level, where ICT merely replaces existing tools without significant pedagogical advancements.

Further research by Ertmer and Ottenbreit-Leftwich (2010) indicates that barriers to effective ICT integration include insufficient professional development, resistance to change, and lack of institutional support. These challenges contribute to the stagnation of ICT integration at lower stages of the SAMR model.

A significant gap in the literature is the reluctance to apply the SAMR model in evaluating ICT integration in higher education. While the TPACK model is frequently used, it is often criticized for its limited scope and inadequate guidance on the effective use of technology in education (Hilton, 2016; Kihzoza et al., 2016). This gap is crucial, as many educators remain at the substitution stage, where ICT merely replaces existing tools without functional changes, failing to realize its full potential for transformative learning.

This study aims to address these gaps by evaluating the effectiveness of the SAMR model in assessing ICT integration in university-level English Language Teaching (ELT). Specifically, it seeks to determine whether the SAMR model offers a more effective framework for advancing ICT integration compared to the TPACK model and to identify barriers preventing progression beyond the substitution stage.

Using a systematic review of studies from six electronic databases (SCOPUS, ProQuest, Science Direct, SINTA, EBSCO, and Google Scholar) over the past decade (2013-2023), this research aims to provide insights into how ICT can be utilized not

merely as a tool for traditional practices but as a catalyst for educational transformation. The findings are expected to contribute to the ongoing discourse on effective technology integration and offer recommendations for enhancing teaching practices through the SAMR model.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study employed a systematic literature review (SLR) methodology to investigate the effectiveness of the Substitution, Augmentation, Modification, and Redefinition (SAMR) model in evaluating the integration and pedagogical adoption of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in English Language Teaching (ELT) at the university level. The primary aim was to assess whether the SAMR model provides a more effective framework for ICT integration compared to the Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge (TPACK) model, and to identify barriers to advancing beyond the substitution stage.

1. Research Design

The SLR methodology was selected due to its rigorous and transparent approach in synthesizing existing research and identifying gaps in the literature. This method is particularly suited for evaluating the effectiveness of educational models and understanding the current state of knowledge within a specific research area (Kitchenham & Charters, 2007). The SLR process followed the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines to ensure methodological rigor and transparency (Moher et al., 2015).

2. Research Questions

The research was guided by the following questions:

- 1) How effective is the SAMR model in enhancing ICT integration in university-level ELT compared to the TPACK model?
- 2) What are the main barriers to advancing ICT integration beyond the substitution stage?
- 3) What insights can be drawn from the current literature regarding the application of the SAMR model in higher education?

3. Search Strategy

A comprehensive search strategy was developed to identify relevant studies published between 2013 and 2023. Six electronic databases were utilized: SCOPUS, ProQuest, Science Direct, SINTA, EBSCO, and Google Scholar. These databases were chosen due to their extensive coverage of educational research and their inclusion of peer-reviewed articles and conference papers.

The search terms included variations of “SAMR model,” “ICT integration,” “English Language Teaching,” and “higher education.” Boolean operators were used to combine these terms effectively. For example, search queries included “SAMR model AND ICT integration AND English Language Teaching AND higher education,” and similar combinations. This strategy was designed to capture a broad range of relevant studies.

4. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

The selection process involved applying specific inclusion and exclusion criteria to ensure the relevance and quality of the studies. The criteria were as follows:

- Inclusion Criteria:
 - Studies published in English between 2013 and 2023.
 - Research focusing on the application of the SAMR model or TPACK model in higher education, specifically in ELT.
 - Peer-reviewed articles, conference papers, and systematic reviews.
 - Studies that provided empirical data or theoretical analysis on ICT integration in educational settings.
- Exclusion Criteria:
 - Studies not related to higher education or ELT.
 - Non-peer-reviewed sources, such as blogs, opinion pieces, or reports without empirical evidence.
 - Research focusing solely on primary or secondary education.

5. Data Extraction

Data extraction was carried out using a standardized form to ensure consistency and comprehensiveness. Key data items extracted from each study included:

- Study Characteristics: Author(s), publication year, journal/conference, and study design.
- ICT Integration Frameworks: Description of the SAMR and TPACK models as applied in the study.
- Methodology: Research design, sample size, and data collection methods.
- Findings: Main outcomes related to the effectiveness of the SAMR model in enhancing ICT integration and pedagogical practices.
- Barriers: Identified challenges and limitations in advancing beyond the substitution stage.

6. Quality Assessment

To assess the quality and reliability of the included studies, a quality appraisal tool was employed. This tool evaluated the methodological rigor of each study, including aspects such as sample size, data collection methods, and analysis techniques. Studies were rated on a scale from high to low quality based on these criteria. Only studies meeting a minimum quality threshold were included in the final synthesis.

7. Data Synthesis and Analysis

The data synthesis involved a narrative and thematic analysis of the extracted information. The synthesis aimed to compare the findings related to the SAMR and TPACK models, highlighting their effectiveness in ICT integration. Key themes were identified based on recurring patterns and insights across the studies. These themes included:

- Effectiveness of the SAMR Model: Analysis of how well the SAMR model facilitated transformative ICT integration in ELT compared to the TPACK model.
- Barriers to ICT Integration: Examination of common obstacles faced by educators in advancing beyond the substitution stage, such as lack of training, institutional resistance, and insufficient support.

- Insights for Practice: Recommendations and best practices derived from the literature to enhance ICT integration in higher education.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in education has been extensively studied over the past decade, focusing on various models and frameworks designed to enhance teaching and learning practices. To provide a comprehensive understanding of the current state of ICT integration, particularly in higher education, we conducted a systematic literature review covering studies from 2013 to 2023. This review examines the effectiveness of the SAMR model in comparison to the Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge (TPACK) model and identifies key trends, challenges, and gaps in the application of these models.

The table 1 summarizes the studies reviewed, including their titles, authors, methods, and key findings. This overview highlights the main contributions of each study and provides a basis for further discussion on the current practices and future directions for ICT integration in education.

Table 1: Summary of Reviewed Studies (2013-2023)

Title of the Research	Authors	Method	Findings
Integration of ICT in Higher Education	Kihoza, Zlotnikova, Bada, & Kalegele (2016)	Mixed Methods	Found that effective ICT integration requires comprehensive teacher training and institutional support.
Enhancing Student Competencies through ICT	Wahyuni, Mujiyanto, Rukmini, & Fitriati (2020)	Quantitative	ICT improved student communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity, but barriers include limited access and resources.
SAMR and TPACK in ELT	Setyaningsih, Wahyuni, & Rochsantiningih (2020)	Qualitative	SAMR model provides a more transformative framework compared to TPACK, but adoption is still low.
Mobile Device-Assisted ICT in Education	Kamijo (2017)	Case Study	Highlighted the benefits of mobile devices for real-time information access

Technology Teaching: Comparative Study	in Aprinaldi, Widiaty, & Abdullah (2018)	Systematic Review	and digital collaboration. Compared different ICT models and emphasized the need for a strategic approach to technology integration.
Challenges of ICT Implementation	Tunjera & Chigona (2019)	Survey	Identified major barriers such as insufficient training and institutional resistance.
Effective Use of Online Teaching Platforms	Romrell, Kidder, & Wood (2014)	Literature Review	Discussed how online platforms can enhance learning if used beyond mere substitution.
Evaluating ICT Models in Education	Crompton & Burke (2020)	Meta-Analysis	Found TPACK to be limited and argued for more comprehensive models like SAMR.
SAMR Model in University-Level ELT	Hilton (2016)	Action Research	Demonstrated that SAMR can lead to significant pedagogical changes if properly implemented.
ICT in Language Teaching: A Decade Review	ICT in Language Teaching: A Decade Review	ICT in Language Teaching: A Decade Review	ICT in Language Teaching: A Decade Review

Based on the summarized findings in the table above, several key themes and trends emerge regarding the integration of ICT in higher education:

1. Importance of Comprehensive Training and Support

Studies by Kihoza et al. (2016) and Tunjera & Chigona (2019) consistently emphasize the necessity of comprehensive training programs and institutional support to effectively integrate ICT in educational settings. Without adequate training, teachers struggle to move beyond the substitution stage of the SAMR model.

2. Transformative Potential of SAMR Model

Research by Setyaningsih et al. (2020) and Hilton (2016) highlight the transformative potential of the SAMR model. These studies demonstrate that when implemented correctly, the SAMR model can significantly enhance pedagogical practices and student outcomes, moving beyond mere enhancement to true transformation of the learning experience.

3. Challenges and Barriers to ICT Integration

Common challenges identified across studies include limited access to resources, insufficient training, and institutional resistance (Wahyuni et al., 2020; Tunjera & Chigona, 2019). These barriers often prevent educators from fully utilizing ICT's potential, keeping many at the substitution level of the SAMR model.

4. Comparison with TPACK Model

The studies by Crompton & Burke (2020) and Hilton (2016) provide a critical comparison between the SAMR and TPACK models. While TPACK is widely used, it is often seen as limited in scope. The SAMR model, on the other hand, offers a more comprehensive framework for understanding and implementing ICT in education.

5. Impact of Mobile Technology

Kamijo (2017) and Romrell et al. (2014) discuss the role of mobile technology in education. These studies suggest that mobile devices can significantly enhance learning by providing real-time access to information and facilitating digital collaboration. However, their effectiveness depends on how well they are integrated into the curriculum.

CONCLUSION

The findings from the reviewed studies underline the importance of strategic and well-supported ICT integration in higher education. The SAMR model, despite its challenges, offers a robust framework for transformative educational practices. To overcome existing barriers, there is a need for comprehensive training programs, supportive institutional policies, and continued research. By addressing these needs, higher education institutions can better leverage ICT to enhance teaching and learning outcomes.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This research was supported by the Institute for Research and Community Service (LPPM) at Harapan Bangsa University. The researchers would like to express our gratitude to LPPM for their invaluable assistance and funding which made this study possible. Additionally, the researchers thank Harapan Bangsa University for providing the necessary resources and facilities for conducting this research. Our sincere appreciation also goes to all colleagues and staff who contributed to the preparation and completion of this manuscript.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION

Author 1: Conceptualization, Methodology, Data Collection, Software, Writing—Original draft preparation, Supervision.

Author 2: Data curation, Analysis, Visualization, Investigation, Writing—Reviewing and Editing.

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