

# Language Laboratory

## 2023-2024

### What is a language laboratory?

A language laboratory is a classroom equipped with tape recorders or computers with software's where students can practice listening to and speaking English and other languages. The college established a language laboratory in 2012. We have been using the language laboratory since 2012–13. We arrange sessions for English department students to improve their communication. Every year, almost 20 students in each batch participate to practice their pronunciation. Our teachers ask them to listen to original pronunciation and improve them accordingly. Also, teachers help them with proper pronunciation. We use this laboratory for the rest of the students at our college under the Soft Skills Development Course. Students from all faculties participate in language practice.

The language laboratory assists educators in delivering foreign language instruction and has been through many developmental stages over the years. This is again a conventional type of lab, with a little modernization. This is the primitive form of the language laboratory. The conventional lab has a tape recorder and a few audiocassettes of the target language to teach the learners. Learners are given a headset to listen to the audiocassettes being played. Here distractions are minimized, and a certain amount of clarity in listening is possible.

### The Significance and Relevance of the Language Laboratory

The significance of the language laboratory is high in communication. We live in a multilingual and multicultural world, which is being shrunk to the size of a village by the advancement of science and technology. The language laboratory exists to help one use technology effectively to communicate. It is not merely for learning a single language but can be used for teaching a number of languages efficiently. To acquire a sensibility for the sounds and rhythm of a language, one has to hear the best samples of the spoken language. This is precisely the function of the language laboratory. Some highlights of the language laboratory are given below:

1. It is a tool designed for teaching any language.
2. It helps one learn pronunciation, accent, stress, and all other aspects of the phonetics of a language.
3. Effective communicative training programs for the general public, private, and corporate sectors, as well as junior and senior-level officers, can be given through the lab.
4. Teachers can utilize the laboratory for creating and editing scientific and technical materials for teaching languages.
5. The language laboratory enables one to conduct courses for various groups of people, like students, faculty, businesspeople, etc.

As the ability to communicate effectively has become the prerequisite for anyone who ventures into a new profession, the need for developing such a skill is a much-felt phenomenon today.

Both governmental and private institutions focus their attention on students developing their communicative skills. As technology has entered every aspect of human life, it has extended its advanced products into the field of communication. So everyone strives to get the best on the market.

It is a fact that most students who do not find a placement after completing their technical studies are very dependent on their ability to express themselves and their knowledge efficiently.

### **Using a language lab has many benefits.**

Language labs are becoming highly valued at colleges and universities because they offer students a structured eLearning environment that is successful and reliable. New technologies are increasingly present in classrooms as they facilitate the teacher's role in creating a more attractive learning environment for the student and can offer their students more practice hours and up-to-date exercises than can be found in language books.

This method of learning does not require professional technical skills for use in the classroom; the teacher only needs basic computer skills, and students will welcome the added technology they are already so adept with.

In short, a language lab is a very comprehensive and cost-effective tool for educational institutions to monetize their language training and also offer students effective language learning via the latest technology and educational content. They are the perfect solution for designing a structured academic curriculum in accordance with the objectives of an educational centre with an international-vocation audience that seeks the highest quality in teaching.

### **Conclusion**

The language laboratory is a very helpful tool for practicing and assessing one's speech in any language. It provides a facility that allows the student to listen to model pronunciation, repeat and record the same, listen to their performance and compare it with the model, and do self-assessment. Since the language laboratory gives every learner of any language freedom to learn at their own pace, it is flexible and does not necessarily require a teacher all the time. At the same time, it is possible for teachers to provide assistance individually and collectively. The language laboratory allows every participant, in his or her privacy, to speak and listen.