

Review of: "Enhancing Academic Speaking Skills: An Immersive Virtual World Approach"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you for such a wonderful and informative read. I have certain concerns mentioned below, which I believe, would help the paper improve in terms of relevance of the topic and coherence of argumentation.

Abstract sounds informative and precise.

Introduction is detailed.

In terms of literature review, the discussion around the categories of fluency, pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar seems informative. However, most of its references are much older, older than a decade. This is also noticed across the paper. Since the study revolves around immersive learning experience, which is relatively recent, references should be selected from recent studies, hopefully research conducted in the last five years. This would appropriately support the author's argumentation and novelty of the research.

There are discussions on motivation and confidence in language learning. But I could not find any answer to, a) why these are discussed here without explaining any context in relation to the current study and b) how they are relevant to the study. In short, coherence of paragraphs and supportive argumentation are missing in the literature review section.

In terms of method, there is a serious concern. A pilot study does not test hypotheses. It would be better if you remove the hypotheses rather than having to add a relevant explanation (with reference) about why they are included. Also, is there any particular criterion/method behind your participant selection? It would be good to add that.

The results are discussed at great length.

Overall, it is a well-structured paper on the topic. Its relevance and reach would be greater if the feedback is incorporated appropriately.

Thank you once again for the paper.