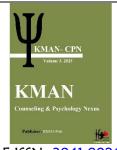


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Iranian EFL Teachers' Perceptions of a Digital Literacy-Based Teacher Education

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The sentence "This has led to necessity of digital literacy for EFL teachers and learners" is grammatically awkward. It should read "This has led to the necessity of digital literacy for EFL teachers and learners."

In paragraph 2, the historical context of digital literacy is somewhat abruptly inserted. Consider integrating the historical perspective more smoothly with a transitional phrase that links past and current needs in EFL contexts.

The paragraph discussing the digital divide (Tewathia et al., 2020) should be expanded with examples or data related specifically to the Iranian EFL context to enhance relevance.

The rationale "Grounded theory design is the best choice" needs scholarly support. Cite relevant methodology literature (e.g., Charmaz, Strauss & Corbin) to justify this choice.

The theme "Using Word and PowerPoint Skills" appears outdated given the broader range of digital tools available. Consider updating or generalizing to "Basic Office Software Proficiency."

The interpretation that "content is the heart of digital education" (paragraph 5) is strong but needs theoretical grounding. Cite constructivist or connectivist learning theories to support this claim.

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Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The statement "EFL teacher education in Iran is not rich in terms of digital literacy components" is vague and lacks citation. Provide evidence or examples to support this claim.

The citation cluster "(Abella & Rosa, 2023; Herrera-Pavo, 2021)" needs clarification—what specific claim is each citation supporting? Ensure that citations are precisely linked to claims throughout.

In the section on evolving approaches in TEFL, the discussion moves rapidly from flipped classrooms to gamification to VR/AR. Consider using subheadings or a clearer logical flow to improve readability.

The claim that "Identifying Digital Needs" and "Creative Use of Digital Technologies" were "unique to this study" (paragraph 1) should be more critically assessed. Provide justification or comparative analysis with past studies.

Phrases like "Old saying is that Two Heads Are Better Than One" (paragraph 4) are informal for a scholarly article. Rephrase in academic language, e.g., "Collaboration has long been recognized as..."

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted. Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.

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