Effective Learning Technologies in Teaching English: The Immersion Method

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Abstract

The main goal of a modern teacher is to choose methods and forms of organizing students' educational activities that fully correspond to the goal of personal development. The task of the teacher is to create conditions for practical language acquisition for all students, to choose teaching methods that would allow each student to show their creativity and activity. The task of the teacher is to activate the cognitive activity of the student in the process of teaching foreign languages. The immersion method is one of the most effective as a natural method of learning a foreign language.

Keywords: *Effective Teaching Methods; Motivation; Focus on the Student; Immersion; Language Environment; Communication*

Introduction

The problem of effective teaching methods and techniques in modern education has become urgent, and there arises the question of improving the foreign language teaching quality. The modern reality put forward the personality–oriented approach of teaching foreign languages. Foreign language teachers have to search for some new methods and techniques which would call for the students' interests and make them more involved into their self–study work. All new technologies allow you to create and maintain motivation to learn a foreign language. The advantages of integration at foreign language lessons such as the development of mental potential; increasing the cognitive interest and motivation of students through non–standard exciting forms of integrated lessons; an opportunity for self–realization, self–expression, creativity of the teacher contribute to perfecting the learning process. Often teachers only help pupils to learn everything about the language, but still pupils find it difficult to apply their knowledge in practice and communicate freely in real life [6].

Modernization of education in Uzbekistan at the present stage of development of society is closely connected with innovative processes in the organization of teaching foreign languages. It involves taking into account the needs and interests of the student, the implementation of a differentiated approach to learning.

Today the focus is on the student, his personality, and his unique inner world. Therefore, the main goal of a modern teacher is to choose methods and forms of organizing students' educational activities that correspond to the set goal of personal development.

The Main Part

In recent years, the issue of the use of new information technologies in school has been increasingly raised. These are not only new technical means, but also new forms and methods of teaching, a new approach to the learning process. The main purpose of teaching foreign languages is the formation and development of the communicative culture of learners, teaching practical mastery of a foreign language. The task of the teacher is to create conditions for practical language acquisition for each student, to choose such teaching methods that would allow each student to show their activity and creativity. The task of the teacher is to activate the cognitive activity of the student in the process of teaching foreign languages. Modern pedagogical technologies such as collaborative learning, project methodology, the use of new information technologies, Internet resources, technology for the development of critical thinking, help to implement a personality–oriented approach to learning and take into account the abilities of children, their level of learning.

The global Internet network creates conditions for obtaining any necessary information for students and teachers such as: country study materials, young people's life, articles from newspapers and magazines, etc. The possibilities of using Internet resources are huge. Using the Internet at English lessons, helps to solve a number of didactic tasks: to form reading skills; to improve the writing skills; to replenish the vocabulary of students; to form students' motivation to learn English. In addition, the work is aimed at exploring the possibilities of Internet technologies to broaden the horizons of learners, establish and maintain business contacts and contacts with their peers in English–speaking countries [2].

The fact is that a modern computer is an effective means of optimizing the conditions of intellectual labor, in general, in any of its manifestations. There is one feature of a computer that is revealed when using it as a device for teaching others, and as an assistant in acquiring knowledge, this is its inanimacy. The machine can "friendly" communicate with the user and at some moments "support" him. The communicative approach involves teaching communication and the formation of the ability to intercultural interaction, which is the basis of the functioning of the Internet.

Outside of communication, the Internet makes no sense it is an international multinational, cross–cultural society whose life activity is based on electronic communication of millions of people around the world. At the same time, it is the most gigantic conversation in terms of size and number of participants that has ever taken place.

One of the main requirements for teaching foreign languages using Internet resources is the creation of interaction in the classroom, which is commonly called interactivity in the methodology. Interactivity is "the unification, coordination and complementarity of efforts of a communicative goal and result by speech means". By teaching an authentic language, the Internet helps in the formation of conversational skills, as well as in teaching vocabulary and grammar, providing genuine interest and, consequently, efficiency. Interactivity not only creates real life situations, but also forces students to respond adequately to them through a foreign language [3].

Among the technologies that provide personality–oriented learning is the immersion method. The immersion method is also called the natural method of language learning. This method, as is clear from the word "immersion", provides the creation of a so–called "language environment" around the learner. In other words, you should surround yourself with English from all sides. What science says: This method does not just help to learn a language, it helps to think in it. By learning English by immersion, you change your way of thinking to the one used by native English speakers.

In addition, using this method, you somehow get in touch with the English language every day. This is important: some studies show that although language lessons for an hour a day also give some results, it is difficult to approach the level of a native speaker in this way. How does it work? We recommend this method to those who live in an English–speaking country, hardly remember grammatical rules.

They want to start communicating in English as soon as possible and better assimilate language material by ear and through oral speech. How to learn by immersion? To use this method of teaching, you need to surround yourself with English speech as much as possible. If you live in a country where English is spoken, you are very lucky. And here's how you can provide yourself with additional daily contact with English: change the interface language of your devices, social networks and sites that you often visit. Join some club or group of English language lovers, online or offline. Find an interest group so that you have something to talk about. If you are studying at school, university or other educational institution, try to speak English with your fellow students. Watch movies and TV series in English. If you don't understand everything that is said on the screen, you are still learning unnoticed by yourself. Watch the news and listen to the radio, subscribe to newspapers or magazines in English. Let English be the first language you hear in the morning!

Conclusion

There are many blogs and articles published on the FluentU website that will help you create a language environment around yourself. Use the search on our blogs, and you will find a lot of useful information. Watch the video together with FluentU to immerse yourself in English with your head! If you are located in the United States, we recommend subscribing to magazines in English on the Magazine Line website. Fortunately, all major publications have websites where you can read fresh articles for free or for little money. To find groups for communication in English in real life, use the Meetup service or search for groups on Facebook. The immersion method is called the "natural" method: the more English speech sounds around you, the easier and faster you will learn to speak English.

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