Section 4. Pedagogy

FORMATION OF LANGUAGE COMPETENCE OF STUDENTS AT THE PRESENT STAGE

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Abstract

The formation of language competence of students at the present stage is the most important task of the educational process, since language proficiency determines the success of communication, knowledge acquisition and social adaptation. The article discusses the main approaches to the development of language competence, including communicative, cognitive and activity-based methods. Special attention is paid to the integration of digital technologies, interdisciplinary learning and individualization of educational strategies. The modern challenges associated with the changing language environment are analyzed, and effective methods of improving the level of language competence of students are proposed. The findings emphasize the need for an integrated approach to learning, focused on the development of all aspects of language activity.

Keywords: *language competence, educational strategies, language activity, language environment, effective methods, modern challenges, communicative methods, cognitive methods, activity-based methods*

Introduction

In the modern world, language competence is an integral part of the educational process and a key factor in the successful socialization of an individual. The ability to effectively use language in various communicative situations determines the level of a person's professional and personal realization. With the rapid development of technology and globalization, approaches to the formation of language competence are changing, which requires the adaptation of educational strategies. This article examines modern methods and approaches to the development of language competence of students, as well as the challenges faced by teachers and students.

In the course of the globalization process, which is developing everywhere today, international cooperation between various countries, peoples and, undoubtedly, their cultures is expanding and strengthening, provided that foreign culture is taken into account in terms of the totality of human activities related to all spheres of life. In this regard, solving the

problems of intercultural communication is impossible without the context of interaction and cultural influence. Due to the mastery of a foreign language, a person becomes involved in the process of communication with other people who are representatives of their cultures. Therefore, foreign language learners need to possess not only a multicomponent set of language abilities and skills, but also a willingness to carry out speech activity, which includes the presence of foreign language communicative competence in the totality of all its components, namely linguistic, speech, socio-cultural, compensatory and educational-cognitive. It should also be emphasized that language competence serves as the basis for the formation of all components of communicative competence, and an insufficient level of its formation leads to difficulties both in direct communication (listening, speaking) and in indirect communication (writing, reading).

Language competence includes the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for the adequate use of language in oral and written form. According to the definition proposed by the Council of Europe, linguistic competence consists of several components:

- Linguistic competence – mastery of phonetic, grammatical and lexical norms of a language. Sociolinguistic competence is the ability to use language in accordance with the social context;
- Discursive competence – the ability to build coherent and logically organized statements;
- Strategic competence – the use of various strategies to overcome language difficulties.

These components form the basis of successful language communication and require an integrated approach to learning.

Methods. The main methods of forming students' language competence, which are highlighted by T. I. Skripnikova, are the following:

– the communicative method, which implies natural immersion in the language environment in order to solve a speech problem;

– the structural method, which consists in presenting structural models;

– the deductive method, based on the principle of consciousness and ideally suited for independent work of students-an inductive method based on a form of inference such as induction, i.e. the transition from single factors to general ones;

– an inductive-deductive method suitable for explaining concepts and phenomena that are absent in the native language.

Modern approaches to the formation of language competence

1. A communicative approach One of the most effective methods of language competence formation is a communicative approach based on the practice of real communication. This method involves the use of interactive tasks, dialogues, role-playing games and discussions, which allows students to apply language in natural situations.

2. Cognitive activity approach. Modern research highlights the importance of cognitive processes in language learning. The cognitive activity approach focuses on the development of thinking, the analysis of linguistic structures and the awareness of linguistic patterns. This method helps students not only memorize language rules, but also understand their logic and apply them in practice.

3. Integration of digital technologies at the present stage, digital technologies are becoming an important tool in language teaching. The use of online platforms, mobile applications, virtual simulators and artificial intelligence significantly expands the possibilities of self-study of the language. Electronic educational resources allow you to personalize learning by providing access to authentic materials, interactive tasks, and adaptive tests.

4. Interdisciplinary approach. Important direction in the development of language competence is the integration of language learning with other subjects. For example, the CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) method involves the study of subject subjects in a foreign language, which contributes to the expansion of vocabulary and the development of academic writing and speech skills.

Results

Modern challenges in the formation of language competence Despite the variety of methods, the process of language competence formation faces a number of challenges:

1. Changing the language environment – the development of digital communications leads to a simplification of language norms, a reduction in formal communication and a decrease in the level of written language proficiency.

2. The difference in training levels – the difference in the language experience of students requires flexible educational strategies and an individual approach.

3. The problem of motivation – insufficient motivation to learn a language, especially in conditions of high student workload, requires the introduction of interactive and playful teaching methods.

4. The need to develop critical thinking – the ability to analyze texts, formulate arguments and conduct discussions is becoming an important component of language competence, but requires special training.

The teacher must keep in mind the methodological conditions that ensure the assimilation of the concept.

1. Ensuring the active mental activity of students. It is known that the effectiveness of knowledge acquisition is determined by teaching methods. The reproductive method does not give the desired results, it focuses on memorization. Search methods are more effective.

2. Purposeful work on the development of children's linguistic attitudes towards words and sentences.

3. Ensuring awareness of essential and non-essential features of the concept. Highlighting non-essential features prevents mistakes of false generalization, which is expressed in the fact that students mistake an insignificant feature for an essential one and take it as a guideline for defining a concept. For example, when introducing nouns, only words denoting the names of objects were used, some children did not mark nouns denoting natural phenomena, events, etc.

4. The inclusion of a new concept in the system of previously studied ones.

5. Disclosure of the essence of the connection of language categories in the process of studying a new category.

6. Visual study of the concept. The specificity of visual aids is due to the fact that the object of study are words, phrases, sentences, etc. Therefore, along with tables, diagrams, objects and their images, the linguistic material itself acts as a means of visualization.

Conclusion

The formation of students' language competence at the present stage requires an integrated approach, including communicative, cognitive, digital and interdisciplinary methods. The development of technology and the changing communication environment pose new challenges to education that require the adaptation of learning strategies. In the context of globalization and digital transformation, language competence is becoming an essential skill that ensures successful academic, professional and social activities. Therefore, improving the methods of language teaching and taking into account modern challenges are priority areas for the development of educational systems.

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