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Effectiveness of using e-resources in teaching English in terms of blended learning

Современные требования к уровню образования человека приводят к необходимости изменения технологий обучения, что влечет за собой появление новых педагогических методов и моделей обучения. В настоящее время в педагогике преобладают методы, позволяющие организовать учебный процесс с ориентацией на личность обучающегося, с учетом его интересов и образовательных способностей.

Ключевые слова: обучение, дистанционное обучение, смешанное обучение, мобильные приложения

Modern requirements for a person's educational level lead to the need of changing teaching technologies which entails the emergence of new pedagogical methods and educational models. Nowadays methods enabling to organize the educational process focusing on the personality of a student, his interests and educational abilities prevail in pedagogy.

Keywords: education, e-learning, blended learning, mobile applications

Educational technologies are a relatively new direction in pedagogy involving teaching with certain technical means. In modern conditions this is a consistent practical implementation of an adjusted educational process [5]. Teaching technology is understood as a special type of teaching in which the main educational functions are performed by a teaching tool under the supervision of a teacher.

Pedagogical innovations contribute to the realization of educational accessibility and effectiveness. The entire history of education indicates that the school is the backbone of any state [2, p. 187–191]. Educational changes involve the use of modern approaches and the latest technologies in the implementation of educational services in terms of a secondary school [1]. The introduction of innovations shows that most of them are dedicated to the development of information technologies in the educational field.

In the modern world, the processes of technological, social and personal development are accelerating. Blended learning acquires particular relevance in the context of a secondary general education school, since the e-learning aspect presupposes a special autonomous technology that has peculiar standards in the learning process.

Blended learning makes it possible for education to meet global development trends and adapt to the rapidly changing conditions of the modern world.

In teaching foreign languages the issue of using Internet resources and mobile applications to improve the efficiency of the educational process is increasingly significant. Modern methods of teaching English have been developed under the influence of technical advance and are also associated with the technological equipment of the learning process. The use of new information technologies is interconnected with the needs of modern education in increasing the effectiveness of teaching [4].

Internet technologies are often used in teaching English which is explained by the urge of the present-day education system to modernize the learning process. Based on web technologies, a personality-oriented approach to the entire learning process is implemented [3]. Nowadays the Internet provides exceptional opportunities for teaching a foreign language: Internet resources ensure both teachers and students with modern programs, a variety of country study material, the necessary authentic literature, etc. [6].

There are many different educational Internet resources, but we will take a closer look at the main popular sites for learning English: Lingualeo.com and TedTalks, as well as mobile application Quizlet. We shall assess their advantages and disadvantages and determine the effectiveness of their use.

The main advantage of the Lingualeo.com is its availability. The student can study the language at a convenient time and in a convenient place. Depending on the students' competence, there are several levels of language learning: from elementary to intermediate. This site assumes both independent work and work according to an individual plan. In the "Assignments" tab, the student can independently select information, since the site contains a large collection of materials in English: video, audio and books. On the "Training" tab, one can repeat the vocabulary studied. The following types of work are available: word-translation and reverse exercise, listening, word and phrase building, vocabulary cards. In addition, one can practise the basic grammar rules for English tense forms.

This site motivates students to learn English through interactive apps, since the active user can comfortably learn the language. The interest of students wishing to learn English on this site is due to the fact that instead of matter-of-fact material a gaming technique is used.

Learning a language on the LinguaLeo site according to an individual plan is structured as follows:

- free registration on the site;
- placement test on English vocabulary and grammar;

- filling out a questionnaire with personal data;
- following the “Tasks” section with their detailed description;
- fulfilling task after task, the students develop their language skills.

The selected assignments represent an individual lesson plan. In the process of studying the material, the student compiles a personal dictionary. It contains words, phrases and sentences from the materials covered, sections are replenished using sets of popular words or independently adding through the search. All vocabulary units can be grouped and trained in the appropriate tabs.

So, the site has many advantages: a large database of materials, grammar and vocabulary exercises, effective training, a user-friendly interface, etc. The site is available for most users who just start learning English and those who continue. However, this site has some disadvantages. This site does not presuppose students’ work with phonetics, as phonetic exercises are practically absent. In addition, in the opinion of many teachers, the “Grammar” section is not worked out to a necessary extent and requires qualitative changes.

The next issue of our particular interest is the TedTalks site, which is also very popular with English learners. This is the site of an American non-profit foundation that publishes videos from its conferences. The purpose of the intellectual conference is to disseminate unique ideas, selected lectures are available on the conference website. The recordings of speeches, in which people share their thoughts and developments, are available for viewing on the website online and for download, the average length of each video is approximately 10-15 minutes. In most videos, the people speak rather slowly, and their speech is very clear, but each video is accompanied by subtitles, as well as an interactive transcript (full text of the recording) with timing, where the words uttered by the speaker are highlighted. The student can follow the speech flow without losing its meaning. Not all speakers are native speakers of classical RP English, so secondary school students who are in the process of active learning a foreign language have the opportunity to become familiar with various dialects and accents. The minimum level of understanding of TedTalks is Pre-Intermediate (A2). The site offers ready-made lessons on the speeches, which are divided into three levels: “middle”, “above average” and “improving”. It deals with improving learners’ listening comprehension and vocabulary. Before the video for each lesson, one can download PDF files where there are some comprehension exercises to consolidate. There is a version for both students and teachers.

So, this site helps to develop listening skills and enlarges the students’ vocabulary. In terms of a secondary school, students have a sufficient amount of knowledge and a good command of a foreign language to use the resources of the TedTalks website, but it is not suitable for studying grammar. The TedTalks website is appropriate as a “supplementary” resource for learning English and may be used at times to improve certain skills.

The next issue for consideration is the Quizlet app, which has recently become very popular with English language teachers. Quizlet is an application that works in flashcards mode. In this application, one can create cards for any subject using visual, textual and sound information. Quizlet is a free student app and is available for installation on most mobile devices. In this application, teachers can create their own courses, edit modules for their own tasks and lesson topics. The flashcard modes in Quizlet allow practicing the studied vocabulary. The advantages of Quizlet for students are in its multimodule nature, since in a short time period it is possible to firmly memorize and consolidate the necessary language material. In addition, the application can be adapted for all stages of learning a foreign language.

Blended learning allows overcoming the main disadvantages of traditional technologies used in the practice of teaching a foreign language. As a result of using the mixed model, the educational process affects all participants of the educational process and increases their motivation and contributes to the development of their educational independence. It is important to note that educational technologies in the classroom are complemented by interactive teaching aids and adaptive technological support of the educational process. The student's readiness for learning conditions in a new environment is manifested in the presence (or absence) of computer literacy, as well as in the psychological aspect. The teacher's readiness for an active coordination and guidance in the blended learning process will be manifested in their qualification features. Due to the fact that the educational process is built in accordance with the individual educational needs and capabilities of students, secondary school education becomes more personalized. Blended learning provides students with access to various sources of information, increases the efficiency of independent work, provides completely new educational opportunities and allows teachers to implement fundamentally new forms and methods of teaching.

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Современные методики преподавания английского языка в высших учебных заведениях

В статье рассматриваются различные методы обучения иностранным языкам в вузах. Особое внимание уделено следующим методам: прямому, грамматико-переводному, аудиовизуальному, аудиолингвальному и коммуникативному. Делается вывод о том, что доминирующее положение начинает занимать коммуникативный метод.

Ключевые слова: иностранный язык; английский язык, методы преподавания

В настоящее время существует немало методик обучения иностранному языку в высших учебных заведениях. Каждый из методов имеет определенные особенности, некоторые обладают большей популярностью и востребованностью, некоторые – меньшей. В этой статье будут рассмотрены основные методики обучения студентов английскому языку.

В современном мире английский язык пользуется огромной популярностью, более того, этот язык является языком международного общения, его знают во всем мире. На сегодняшний день существует множество методик для преподавания английского языка. Кроме того, регулярно разрабатываются новые, поэтому теперь каждый преподаватель может выбрать для себя оптимально подходящую методику работы. В настоящее время в преподавании иностранного языка в высших учебных заведениях чаще всего используются классические методы, а именно:

- 1) прямой метод;
- 2) грамматико-переводной метод обучения;
- 3) аудиовизуальный и аудиолингвальный методы;
- 4) коммуникативный метод.

Далее рассмотрим каждую из названных методик более подробно, делая особый акцент на актуальность коммуникативного метода.

Прямой метод преподавания английского языка состоит в том, что преподаватель больше внимания уделяет изучению непосредственно разговорного