

## **The main characteristics of English songs used for the mastering of listening skills in senior classes**

В статье рассматриваются основные характеристики англоязычных аутентичных песенных произведений, используемых для совершенствования аудитивных навыков в старших классах. Различные приемы, техники эффективного обучения иностранному языку позволяют разнообразить процесс обучения в старших классах и сделать его интересным и понятным. Использование аутентичного песенного материала способствует совершенствованию навыков аудирования.

**Ключевые слова:** аутентичные песенные произведения, старшие классы, аудитивные навыки

This article discusses the main characteristics of English authentic songs used to improve listening skills in senior classes. Various techniques for effective teaching a foreign language make it possible to diversify the learning process in high school and make it interesting and understandable. The use of authentic song material contributes to the improvement of listening skills.

**Keywords:** authentic songs, senior classes, listening skills

At the present stage of foreign language education development there are many techniques and methods for effective a foreign language teaching. However, despite all their multitude and diversity, the problem of successful language acquisition has been and remains relevant to this day. Teachers are constantly looking for simple, accessible and, at the same time, exciting ways to attract students' attention to the subject, regardless of the stage of education and age characteristics. Senior classes are a special age group that requires serious attention. In addition to the fact that the young people are entering adulthood and are faced with the problems of self-determination and place in life, the issues of building a further way of learning and determining their life position, high school students are faced with a difficult choice of disciplines necessary for entering higher educational institutions. At the same time, disciplines that do not require specialized training also remain relevant for studying and attending according to the curriculum. A foreign language, in this case, is no exception.

Unfortunately, not every student is easily given the mastery of a foreign language, especially its individual aspects. The fact that listening is one of the most difficult types of speech activity is well known. In our opinion, it is possible to diversify the process of developing and mastering listening skills in high school, making it interesting and understandable while using authentic song material.

The American poet and translator of the 19th century Henry Longfellow said, "Music is the universal language of mankind", which does not need any translation.

Modern methodologists, linguists and scientists such as E. N. Solovova, I. N. Balunets, V. F. Aitov, G. N. Dolya, D. I. Evladova, E. P. Karpichenkova and others also emphasize the importance of the role of songs in learning English, particularly in the development of listening skills. Thus, the British linguist David Crystal emphasizes the dominant English-language character of modern music and the influence of English-language popular music on the dialogue of cultures in general. Musical discourse in its various genres (lyrics, international musical projects and television shows, programs on music channels, etc.) undoubtedly contributes to the promotion of the English language throughout the world, and therefore creates a favorable environment for using it in the educational process.

In order to understand how to organize the process of developing and improving listening skills in high school more successfully when using authentic song works, we offer to study the characteristics of song works that can be used in foreign language lessons in high school.

E. N. Solovova noted that any song is words set to music. Therefore, in terms of learning to listen, the system of working with a song will be in many ways similar to the system of working on a text [4, p. 121]. At the same time, it is necessary that the text of the song is used be meaningful in terms of meaning. It is important that the text of the sounding song has a certain semantic value, without being just a set of words and rhyming phrases.

Also, no less important characteristic of a song work, in our opinion, is its rhythm. From the basic course of methodology for teaching foreign languages, E. N. Solovova knows that one of the objective difficulties in listening is the lack of a clear speech rhythm. If the speech is “blurred”, unemotional, monotonous and of the same type in terms of rhythmic coloring, the perception of such speech can be extremely problematic. Similar requirements are also imposed on the song. The song should create not only a positive atmosphere, but also be rhythmic, well heard and obeyed, only then it can be used to develop listening skills.

The next characteristic of a song work, we would like to consider, is the degree of its authenticity. The level of language difficulties that a high school student encounters when studying this or that material belongs to the group of typological difficulties in listening. Even if we assume that the high school student has a sufficient vocabulary and the volume of the semantic field of the student is large enough, the excessive presence of unfamiliar content in the work being listened to or read can lead to reluctance to study the material or cause difficulties in perception, which will undoubtedly lead to a decrease of interest or even loss of it. The situation may be aggravated by the fact that a high school student, under conditions of everyday stress due to the need to constantly perform a huge number of training tasks, may finally lose any desire to study already difficult material. Therefore, the level of unfamiliar vocabulary in the songs being listened to should not be high, and should not interfere with general understanding. The teacher needs to take into account the speaking ex-

perience of students. If the speaking experience of high school students does not correspond to the program, the teacher needs to select the appropriate song work, even if it is a simple children's song, but at the same time it will be listened to and understood almost completely.

Given the difficulties in the perception of foreign language speech associated with the individual characteristics of the source of speech, it is necessary to single out one more characteristic feature of authentic song works used to develop listening skills in high school. The song must be performed by both male and female voices. If students listen to only a male voice or only to a female one, there is a risk of addiction. People of the opposite sex, speaking or singing in a foreign language, the students simply will not be able to adequately perceive. Of course, if students are completely unprepared to listen to different timbres, voices and song tempos, it makes sense to start by listening to small fragments, allowing students to get used to the diversity and degree of authenticity.

Analyzing the distinctive characteristics of authentic song works used for the development of listening skills, one cannot fail to dwell on such an important point as the interests of high school students. The piece to be listened to should be interesting for students, meet modern musical trends and tastes. Of course, we are not talking about using an aggressive, sexist context aimed at promoting violence, cruelty and other undesirable appeals. However, if students listen to rap, being fans of this subculture, this kind of format, with obviously verified content, can be used if it has a clearly defined rhythm, is expressive and well written. Unfamiliar vocabulary in this case can be worked out before the start of listening.

E. A. Ruchyevskaya notes a certain role of accompaniment in memorizing the text of a song [3]. An outstanding musicologist also noted the importance of taking into account the age characteristics, interests and hobbies of students [2]. We have already suggested that students of 10-11 grades may show an increased interest in modern rock, pop and hip-hop music. We also noted that not every song material is appropriate and effective in the educational process. Following A. A. Ivanov, we believe that didactically effective is only the use of such song material, in which both the text and the melody are expressive and artistically valuable in harmonic correspondence and interaction [1].

For the methodology of developing listening skills for senior classes' students, it is important that the purposeful use of songs in the educational process ensures quick and stable memorization of the text of songs, its lexical and grammatical design, which in turn creates favorable conditions for the development of listening skills and the improvement of basic speaking skills.

Having studied the goals and objectives of listening in senior classes, highlighting the characteristic features of authentic song works, we find it appropriate to analyze all the song works before using them during the lesson, even though these songs are offered as an additional material for studying.

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### **Analysis of non-standard methods of learning English**

Цель статьи заключается в изучении и анализе наиболее интересных нестандартных методов изучения английского языка. В статье рассматриваются возможности использования различных методик, которые направлены на быстрое и легкое изучение английского языка.

**Ключевые слова:** метод, изучение, нестандартный, английский язык

The purpose of this article is to study and analyze the most interesting non-standard methods of learning English. The article discusses the possibilities of using different methods, aimed at quick and easy learning of English.

**Keywords:** method, study, non-standard, English

Speaking about learning foreign languages, it is important to remember that everyone can learn several languages, the main thing is to find the right approach and develop a craving for knowledge. The methods of learning English developed by experienced teachers and polyglots will help you understand how to learn foreign languages. The relevance of this topic cannot be denied since English is an international language of communication, which shows its importance in the modern world. In all countries of the world, learning English is of great importance. Today, the study of foreign languages, in particular, English, give new opportunities for a person in the modern world. Learning foreign languages, people begin to perceive the world around them differently.

In modern methodology, a great number of methods of learning English are used everywhere. The classical methods are those that are taught at school, in spe-