

NEW METHODS OF TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

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The world is more interconnected than ever, and the need for effective communication across cultures has made English a global lingua franca. As a result, teaching English as a second language (ESL) has become increasingly important. Traditional methods of language instruction, such as grammar-translation and rote memorization, are giving way to innovative approaches that emphasize communication, engagement, and real-world application. This article explores several new methods of teaching ESL that have emerged in recent years, highlighting their effectiveness and practical applications.

Keywords

ESL, innovative methods, interaction, real-life situations, critical thinking, teamwork, approach, motivation, context for language use, conduct a science lesson, multimedia resources

Аннотация

Мир стал более взаимосвязанным, чем когда-либо, и потребность в эффективной коммуникации между культурами сделала английский язык глобальным языком межнационального общения. В результате преподавание английского как второго языка (ESL) приобретает все большее значение. Традиционные методы обучения языку, такие как грамматический перевод и механическое заучивание, уступают место инновационным подходам, которые делают акцент на коммуникации, вовлеченности и применении в реальной жизни. В этой статье рассматриваются несколько новых методов преподавания ESL, появившихся в последние годы, с акцентом на их эффективность и практическое применение.

Ключевые слова

ESL, инновационные методы, взаимодействие, ситуации из реальной жизни, критическое мышление, командная работа, подход, мотивация, контекст использования языка, проведение урока естествознания, мультимедийные ресурсы

Annotatsiya

Dunyo har qachongidan ham bir-biriga bog'langan va madaniyatlar o'rtasidagi samarali muloqotga bo'lgan ehtiyoj ingliz tilini global lingua frankaga aylantirdi. Natijada ingliz tilini ikkinchi til (ESL) sifatida o'rgatish tobora muhim ahamiyat kasb etmoqda. Tilni o'qitishning grammatika-tarjima va yodlab olish kabi an'anaviy usullari o'z o'rnini muloqot, ishtirok etish va real hayotda qo'llashni ta'kidlaydigan innovatsion yondashuvlarga bo'shatib bermoqda. Ushbu maqola so'nggi yillarda paydo bo'lgan ESL o'qitishning bir qancha yangi usullarini o'rganadi, ularning samaradorligi va amaliy qo'llanilishini ta'kidlaydi.

Kalit so'zlar:

ESL, innovatsion usullar, o'zaro ta'sir, hayotiy vaziyatlar, tanqidiy fikrlash, jamoada ishlash, yondashuv, motivatsiya, tildan foydalanish konteksti, fan darsini o'tkazish, multimedia resurslari

Teaching English as a second language (ESL) has evolved significantly, incorporating various innovative methods that enhance learning and engagement. Here I want to pay attention to some new methods that have gained traction in recent years and I am trying to follow them during my lessons of Methodology of teaching English as a second language:

1. Without any doubt, the most popular is Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) - an approach that emphasizes interaction as the primary means of language learning. Instead of focusing solely on grammatical accuracy, CLT encourages learners to use the language in meaningful contexts. With this method I usually try activities like role-playing, group discussions, and problem-solving tasks that require students to communicate effectively. Key Features of CLT are closely connected with real-life contexts: classes are designed around real-life situations that students may encounter outside the classroom. The approach is focused on fluency: accuracy is still important, but the primary goal is to enable students to communicate fluently.

Here much attention is paid to student-centered learning: they take an active role in their education, often working collaboratively with peers. Usually, I organize a debate on a relevant topic. Activities like this not only build language skills but also foster critical thinking and teamwork.

2. The next approach which is too popular during my classes is Task-Based Language Teaching (TBLT) with authentic tasks to promote language learning. These tasks require students to use the target language to achieve specific outcomes, such as planning a trip or conducting a survey. Key features are based on: task authenticity to mirror real-world activities; conveying meaning rather than perfecting grammatical structures; outcome orientation when students work towards completing a task, which provides motivation and context for language use. Practical applications may include a TBLT lesson that involves students planning a vacation itinerary in groups. They would need to research destinations, discuss preferences, and present their plans to the class, all while using English as the medium of communication.

3. Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) - an educational approach where subjects are taught in a foreign language. This method not only teaches language skills but also content knowledge, making it particularly effective for older students or adults. Key features of CLIL include: dual focus, when students learn both content (e.g., science, history, literature) and language simultaneously; cognitive engagement, when students are challenged to think critically about the subject matter while using the target language; cultural awareness which promotes understanding of different cultures through the content being studied.

Practical applications may include a science lesson in English, where students learn about climate while practicing vocabulary related to geography. This approach helps students see the practical application of their language skills.

4. Very popular nowadays Blended learning combines traditional face-to-face instruction with online learning components. This method uses technology to enhance the language learning experience, allowing for greater flexibility and personalization. It creates flexible learning environment where students can access materials and complete assignments at their own pace. It suggests diverse resources with online platforms offering a variety of multimedia resources, including videos, podcasts, and interactive exercises. Much attention is paid to individualized instruction when teachers can tailor lessons to meet the specific needs of each student based on their online performance. A blended learning ESL course might involve in-class discussions supplemented by online modules where students can practice grammar and vocabulary through interactive exercises. This combination allows for deeper engagement with the material.

5. To increase motivation and engagement we can use Gamification that involves incorporating game elements into the learning process. It is a transformation of a traditional language learning into an enjoyable and funny experience that encourages participation with the help of game-like elements such as points, levels, and rewards motivate students to participate actively. Many gamified activities provide immediate instant feedback, helping learners recognize areas for improvement. Games often require collaboration and teamwork, fostering social interaction among learners. We can use quizzes with leaderboards or challenges that allow students to earn badges for completing tasks. This approach makes learning fun and competitive.

6. Sometimes students are engaged in projects over an extended period with a Project-Based Learning (PBL). This method emphasizes inquiry, collaboration, and real-world relevance. It is a student-centered learning and students take ownership of their projects, driving their own learning process. It is an interdisciplinary approach because projects often integrate multiple subjects, providing a holistic learning experience. Real-world relevance shows projects designed to address real-world problems or questions. As an example, in an ESL context, students might work on a project to create a travel brochure for a country where English is spoken. They would research cultural aspects, write descriptions in English, and design the brochure collaboratively. This project not only enhances language skills but also fosters creativity and critical thinking.

7. The last approach we want to mention in this article is the Lexical approach which focuses on teaching vocabulary and phrases rather than grammatical structures as the foundation for language learning. This method emphasizes the importance of understanding how words work together in context. Vocabulary focused it emphasis on teaching collocations, idioms, and phrases rather than isolated words. Contextual learning shows that vocabulary is taught within meaningful contexts to enhance retention. Real-life application deals with practice using vocabulary in situations students are likely to encounter. In a classroom using this approach, a teacher might introduce common phrases used in everyday conversation and have students practice them through role-play scenarios. This method helps learners acquire language skills that are immediately applicable in real-life situations.

In conclusion, as the demand for English language proficiency continues to grow globally, educators must adapt their teaching methods to meet the needs of diverse learners. New approaches such as Communicative Language Teaching, Task-Based Language Teaching, Content and Language Integrated Learning, Blended Learning, Gamification, Project-Based Learning, and the Lexical Approach offer innovative ways to engage students and enhance their language skills. By embracing these methods, teachers can create dynamic and effective learning environments that prepare learners for success in an increasingly interconnected world.

The future of ESL education lies in these innovative approaches that prioritize communication, collaboration, and real-world application. As educators continue to explore new methodologies, they will undoubtedly discover even more effective ways to teach English as a second language in the years to come.

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