



LEARNING VOCABULARY IS KEY TO MASTERING LANGUAGES

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Annotation: The article gives information about the importance of learning a language and how to improve the level of vocabulary in order to honing language proficiency. Furthermore, we will review methods of enhancing vocabulary and some ideas highlighted by several scholars. In the end, we will choose the best method according to the research results.

Key words: vocabulary, methods, learning acquisition

Аннотация: В этой статье мы рассмотрим, насколько важно изучать и совершенствовать свой словарный запас, чтобы отточить владение языком. Кроме того, мы рассмотрим методы расширения словарного запаса и некоторые идеи, выдвинутые несколькими учеными. В конце мы выберем лучший метод в соответствии с результатами исследований.

Ключевые слова: словарный запас, методика, обучение

Introduction

Vocabulary development is essential for fluency, but like all other aspects of language acquisition, it has its advantages and disadvantages. Here are two things to consider. The Positive Sides of Learning Vocabulary: When you have a command of basic words, you will be able to communicate better. Because good communication skills are important to employers. Large vocabulary will help you feel more confident during oral and written exams, as you will be able to use words correctly in different situations. Additionally, it provides an opportunity to express new ideas which leads to creativity. The Negative Sides of Learning Vocabulary: Forgetting phrases can lead to frustration. This is especially true for low-frequency or complex vocabulary that is rarely used in conversation. In addition, building an extensive vocabulary requires effort, patience and time therefore it may seem a bit tedious, especially for beginners. Last but not least, Simply memorizing words may not always get you right and you must understand definition. Without context, it is easy to misuse words or sound unnatural, as nuances and idiomatic expressions can be missed.

To make learning more enjoyable and get rid of boredom, you can set goals or motivate yourself. This can be done in different ways, for example: Learn new words every day as you can for example 10 words per day. Or use engaging materials. You can learn new words by watching cartoons, TV shows and books. In short, find something that makes you happy and helps you memorize unfamiliar words. Don't forget to reward yourself. Every time you learn new words and realize how to use them correctly. Reward yourself, because rewarding yourself gives you a sense of satisfaction and motivate yourself moving forward. Find a person or

group that you can freely use these memorized words. This method will keep you from getting bored and makes the learning process more entertaining and memorable.

The importance of learning vocabulary

Grammar, pronunciation, listening comprehension and reading comprehension are all important factors to consider when learning a new language. However, vocabulary is at the heart of all of this. Words form the cornerstone of any language and without a strong vocabulary, other language skills may appear inadequate. For example, grammar rules are essential to learning a language, but they also focused on vocabulary. Understanding verb conjugations or sentence structure, such as, requires knowledge of the words you use. Grammar becomes more intuitive and easy to master if you have a large vocabulary. In fact, grammar and vocabulary often complement each other; In short learning new words allows you to learn more about the grammatical structure of sentences in the target language.

The main function of vocabulary is to enable communication. Without enough words, it becomes difficult to explain ideas clearly. A diverse vocabulary allows us to communicate more precisely and subtly. Knowing certain terms allow us to express precise emotions, explain terms accurately and communicate complex concepts in a way that others can understand. A large vocabulary also helps us understand people better, like we can capture nuances of meaning, discern tone, and appreciate context, all of which are necessary for satisfying relationships. According to Zimmerman(1997), vocabulary is "central to language and of critical importance to the typical language learning process" because it provides the basis for creating and understanding language.

Word learning is not limited to language proficiency, but also contributes to cognitive development. When you read books with unfamiliar words you can predict their definition, when you look up their definition, you try to memorize it. This process helps your brain to advance your memorization skills as well as with critical thinking. Furthermore, understanding more words allows a person to understand more complex ideas and to solve problems more effectively. As Hornby(1995) states "that without rich vocabulary" there is no language" and thus, our ability to think critically and engage with abstract concepts becomes limited".

Learning languages also helps people have a better understanding of their culture. Words often have cultural meanings and understanding their meanings can help students realize the context and nuances of language. When learning a second language, this understanding can help bridge cultural divides and increase intercultural communication. As Webb(2009) points out "Vocabulary acquisition is a central factor in language learning that enables learners to communicate effectively in cultural and linguistic contexts". Moreover, communicating with native speakers becomes easier and more meaningful when one understands the cultural layers of the language. When students know how to communicate in a culturally sensitive manner, it is easier to make a personal connection because they develop rapport and trust. In today's globalized world, where intercultural cooperation and understanding are crucial in social, academic, and professional situations, cultural competence is becoming more and more relevant.

Methods of learning and improving new vocabulary

Learning new vocabulary is necessary for speech development. As Ludwig Wittgenstein said, "The limits of my language mean the limits of my world.". To expand these restrictions we will see some methods of retaining the words:

1. **Read more and regularly.** Reading introduces you to new language in context, making it easier to understand its meaning and application. Books, newspapers, magazines, and Internet articles have their own style, so extensive reading introduces you to a variety of terms and phrases. "A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies," wrote George R.R. Martin, and reading allows you to expand not only your vocabulary but also your horizons. Choose Topics of Interest: Selecting content that genuinely interests you can keep you motivated. "Find something you're passionate about and keep tremendously interested in it," advised Julia Child. Passion can turn reading into a delightful habit. For instance, during reading you can highlight unknown words, then check them to find out their meanings and examples in sentences. While reading you begin to understand the meanings of words. Putting these words in dictionary you reinforce their meanings

in your brain.

2. Learning new words through context. Contextualizing vocabulary is one of the most successful methods of teaching it. When children learn words in context, they not only understand their meaning but also learn how to use them correctly. This method involves incorporating new vocabulary into reading passages, conversations or stories. According to Nagy, Anderson and Herman (1987), contextual learning improves memory by allowing students to see how words work in sentences and mitigate the likelihood of misuse. Teachers can supply these contexts by employing literature, news, stories or articles.

Tips:

- Write your Own Sentences. Come up with phrases based on your own life experiences to make the terminology more accessible. Carol Burnett said: "Words, once typed, have a life of their own." When you write personal phrases, you are more likely to recall the terminology because it is relevant to your daily life.
- Use words in pairs or by topic.
- Organizing words by topic, such as "nature" or "emotions," can improve recall because of their conceptual connection. Carl Jung wrote, "The creation of something new is not done by the intellect, but by a playful instinct acting on an inner necessity." Playing with groups of words can bring a creative element to vocabulary development.

3. Using flashcards. Flashcards are traditional but effective method of vocabulary acquisition. Platforms like Anki and Quizlet can increase the effectiveness of flashcards by scheduling new words. According to research, meantime repetition can significantly improve long-term memorization by using the effect of intervals to strengthen memory (Cepeda et al.,2006). By repeating words regularly, students can strengthen their understanding of new vocabulary over time.

Tips:

- Create your own flashcards. Creating your own flashcards aids in initial learning. "If you want to become a writer, you must do two things that are more important than anything else: read a lot and write a lot," says King. Personalizing flashcards with sentences and situations that are relevant to you can reinforce their meaning.
- Review regularly: Consistency is very important for building vocabulary. As Aristotle observed, "we are what we constantly do." Thus, improvement is more of a habit than an action. Regular review, even for a few minutes each day, can lead to long-term memorization.

4. Using new words when communicating. In order to secure vocabulary, new words should be actively used both in speaking and writing. Practicing vocabulary in context helps students to remember and interpret words better. Conversations, essays are good ways to acquire new vocabulary. According to active recall research, employing words helps to consolidate them in memory by requiring deep processing (Roediger and Bulter,2011).

-Practice with friends or language partners to reinforce your words naturally. Mistakes are an inevitable part of the process, as Samuel Beckett once said, "Ever tried. Ever failed. It doesn't matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better". - Start a journal for self-reflection: Using new words in your entries for self-reflection can be helpful. "Language shapes our thinking and determines what we can think about," Benjamin Lee Wharf observed. Writing entries using new words improves your ability to think about and communicate complex concepts.

5. Linking words to each other and visualization. Linking words is the process of creating a "word map" that links a new word to related concepts, synonyms, antonyms and with examples. This technique helps students with comprehension by linking new words to familiar topics. For example: we learn term " achievement " and we can link it by using these words " success " , "goal" or "discipline ". Another effective strategy is visualization, which involves linking words to images or stories in order to make them more memorable in our brain (Paivio, 1991).

6. Games and Gamification. Games such as Bingo, Pictionary can help make vocabulary learning more engaging and memorable. Gamification usually uses in order to competition and fun. Hangman games and charades relate an enjoyable environment for students to apply their knowledge, also reducing fear and motivation (Hamari et al.2016)

Students are advised to follow these: Set daily goals: Setting small, achievable goals in apps will help you stay focused. "Success is the sum of small efforts repeated day after day," states Robert Collier. Even a small daily exercise can yield significant results over time. - Challenge yourself: Games and challenges make learning more fun. According to Tim Ferriss, "focus on being productive, not busy." Problem solving enhances meaningful learning compared to meaningless repetition of concepts

The best teaching strategy is...

Research suggests that contextual learning and active usage are among the most effective methods for teaching new vocabulary.

Contextual learning allows learners to understand words in their natural atmosphere, which promotes comprehension and long-term memory. As Nation (2001) suggest, learning vocabulary in context rather than in isolation leads to better learning because learners can observe how terms are used in sentences.

Webb (2009) found that regular use of terms in various situations, particularly in speaking and writing, significantly improves memory and recall. By actively using words, students not only master vocabulary but also understand its subtleties and usage patterns.

Conclusion

In conclusion, language plays a big role in our lives, it not only helps in acquiring knowledge but also brings benefits during learning such as developing cognitive thinking and strengthening memory, also learning and developing new vocabulary is an indivisible part of learning foreign languages. In this process you may encounter difficulties but there are many methods to solve them that are both useful and fun. Learning a language also creates new chances, such as improving professional prospects and fostering cross-cultural relationships. In the end, acquiring a language improves our life and increases our comprehension of the world.

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