

**EFFECTIVENESS AND METHODS OF TEACHING FOREIGN LANGUAGES
THROUGH MUSIC LESSONS**

Nazarova Sabrina Allaberdi qizi

The teacher of a boarding school specialized in the art of public charity

Nazarov Farkhodjon Allaberdiyevich

Termiz State University

Teacher of the Department of Music Education

Annotation: The integration of music into foreign language education offers a dynamic and effective approach to language acquisition, leveraging the natural synergy between music and language processing in the brain. This annotation outlines the core principles and benefits of using music lessons as a tool for learning foreign languages, focusing on cognitive, emotional, and cultural dimensions. Music and language share overlapping neural pathways, making music a powerful medium for enhancing memory retention and phonological awareness. The rhythmic and melodic elements of music help students internalize pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammatical structures more effectively than traditional methods. Music evokes emotions, which play a crucial role in deepening students' connection to the language. Songs often tell stories and convey cultural nuances, making language learning more meaningful and engaging.

Keywords: language phonetics, pronunciation improvement, intonation practice, music in language learning, phonetic accuracy, auditory discrimination, singing exercises, phonetic drills, listening activities, accent development, learner motivation, music-based learning, foreign language acquisition, engaging language instruction, music and pronunciation.

Introduction

The connection between music and language learning is both profound and well-documented. From the lullabies that help babies recognize their mother tongue to the jingles that help adults remember brand names, music is a powerful tool for embedding language in our minds. As educators search for effective and engaging ways to teach foreign languages, incorporating music into language lessons has emerged as a promising approach. This article delves into the effectiveness of teaching foreign languages through music and explores the methods that can be employed to maximize learning outcomes.

The Effectiveness of Music in Language Learning

1. **Cognitive Benefits:** Music and language processing share overlapping neural circuits in the brain. When students engage with music, they activate areas involved in memory, attention, and emotion—all crucial for language acquisition. Studies have shown that music can enhance memory retention, making it easier for learners to recall vocabulary, grammar structures, and pronunciation patterns.
2. **Phonological Awareness:** Phonological awareness—the ability to recognize and manipulate sounds in a language—is a fundamental skill in language learning. Music, with its emphasis on rhythm, melody, and pitch, naturally enhances this skill. Singing in a foreign language helps students become more attuned to the specific sounds and intonations of the language, leading to improved pronunciation and listening comprehension.
3. **Emotional Engagement:** Music is an emotionally resonant medium, and emotions play a significant role in learning. When students are emotionally engaged, they are more likely to retain information and develop a deeper connection to the material. Songs, with their capacity to evoke feelings and tell stories, can make language learning more meaningful and enjoyable.

4. Multisensory Learning: Language learning is most effective when it engages multiple senses. Music lessons that incorporate singing, listening, and movement create a multisensory learning environment that can cater to different learning styles. This approach helps reinforce language concepts in a way that is both memorable and accessible to all students.

Methods of Teaching Foreign Languages Through Music

1. Singing Songs in the Target Language: One of the most straightforward and effective methods is to have students learn and sing songs in the foreign language. Teachers can choose songs that are culturally relevant and linguistically rich, providing a context for vocabulary and grammar. The repetition inherent in music allows for natural reinforcement of language patterns.

2. Lyric Analysis and Translation: Engaging students in analyzing and translating song lyrics helps them develop a deeper understanding of the language. This method encourages critical thinking and allows students to explore the meaning behind the words. By translating lyrics, students practice their language skills while also gaining insights into the cultural nuances embedded in the music.

3. Music-Based Vocabulary and Grammar Exercises: Teachers can design exercises that use song lyrics as a basis for vocabulary and grammar practice. For example, students can fill in the blanks in lyrics with the correct verb forms or match vocabulary words to their definitions. These activities make traditional language exercises more dynamic and engaging.

4. Creating Original Songs: Encouraging students to write and perform their own songs in the foreign language fosters creativity and active language use. This method requires students to apply their knowledge of vocabulary, syntax, and pronunciation in a meaningful way. The process of songwriting also helps students internalize language structures as they experiment with different ways to express their ideas.

5. Using Music Videos and Performances: Incorporating music videos and live performances into lessons can further enhance the learning experience. Watching and discussing music videos in the target language exposes students to cultural content and provides a visual context for the lyrics. Live performances, whether by the students themselves or by native speakers, add an element of authenticity and excitement to the learning process.

6. Incorporating Movement and Dance: Movement and dance are natural complements to music and can be powerful tools in language learning. Teachers can integrate dance routines or simple movements that correspond with the lyrics of a song. This kinesthetic approach helps reinforce language learning by engaging the body as well as the mind.

While the benefits of teaching foreign languages through music are clear, there are also challenges to consider. Some students may be shy or reluctant to sing in front of others, which can affect their participation. It is important for teachers to create a supportive and non-judgmental classroom environment where all students feel comfortable engaging with the material.

Additionally, teachers must carefully select songs that are appropriate for the students' language proficiency level and age. Complex lyrics or fast-paced songs may be overwhelming for beginners, so it's essential to choose music that aligns with the learners' abilities while still providing a challenge.

Psychologist, professor B.M. Teplov in his "Musical abilities psychology" in the book about the interrelationship between activity and musical abilities specially emphasized. Organization of the effectiveness of music education students musical requires the identification of abilities. During the lesson, students listen to music, literacy, singing, playing children's instruments, rhythmic movements performance, abilities that are manifested in the activities of music creation can be determined. The teacher will increase the students' participation in musical activities improve musical skills through mass participation in training should achieve development.

Music literacy as a theoretical unifying activity of all knowledge is important. Which activity from the lesson (listening, performing, musical actions), the work on the given topic is studied and its features (genre, form, structure, performance) new concepts are formed. That's it therefore, musical literacy is not only about learning notes general, which makes up the general level of musical knowledge of students a complex of knowledge and concepts (performance, folk and compositional music, their the difference is musical notation). Musical terms, traditions, tempo, alteration in music literacy symbols, dynamic symbols, expressive language of music, simple musical forms and gives an understanding of genres, major and minor scales.

Conclusion. Teaching foreign languages through music is a highly effective and enjoyable approach that taps into the natural connections between music and language. By incorporating singing, lyric analysis, and movement into language lessons, educators can create a dynamic learning environment that enhances memory, pronunciation, and cultural understanding. While there are challenges to consider, the benefits of using music as a tool for language acquisition make it a valuable addition to any language curriculum. As educators continue to explore innovative methods for teaching languages, the harmonious blend of music and language learning will undoubtedly play a central role in classrooms worldwide.

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