

MODERN METHODS OF TEACHING ENGLISH AT UNIVERSITY

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Annotation: This article discusses how to teach English quickly and easily with the help of modern methods. These methods provide the lessons to be organized in a high mood which is really important for both learners and teacher. Also, it includes advice for young teachers to conduct the lessons lively as well as there are some clues for conducting learner-centered lessons.

Key words: The modern, the method, teaching, English, school, classic, theory, proficiency, lack of.

To learn how to speak English, you need a certain system or, as it is more often called, a method of teaching the English language, which would allow to solve the tasks as fully as possible, namely: to acquire reading skills, understanding of listening, speaking and writing in the language being studied.

Even 20-30 years ago, the basis of training was the classical methodology. 90% of the time was devoted to the theory of a foreign language. In the lessons, students studied new vocabulary, syntactic constructions, discussed the rules, and also read and translated texts, did written assignments, and sometimes listened to audio recordings. It took only 10% of the time to develop conversational skills. As a result, the person understood the texts in English and knew the grammar rules, but could not speak. That is why it was decided to change the approach to learning.

So, the following methods have replaced the fundamental “classic” +:

Communicative

Its main principle is the use of lexical units and grammatical constructions studied in lessons in speech, both oral and written. All classes that are developed in accordance with the principles of this modern methodology

of teaching English, if possible, are conducted in a foreign language, or with a minimum inclusion of native speech.

Moreover, the teacher only guides the students, asks them questions and creates a communicative situation, while 70% of the time from the whole lesson is said by the students. It is noteworthy that this very technique laid the foundation for teaching a foreign language at school. Nevertheless, some tricks of the classical school are still used. So, for example, teachers to this day share with their students knowledge of the theory of the English language, set written exercises for working out grammar and vocabulary.

Design

This method of teaching English to children, however, as well as adults, has long been used in schools and universities in America, and recently it has become more and more firmly part of the educational activities of our students. Its meaning is to use the material studied in practice and is

optimal for use at the end of the whole module, when it becomes possible to assess the degree of assimilation of educational material. So, for example, younger students are happy to present their projects on the topics “My Home”, “My Pet”, “My Favorite Toys”, while high

school students are already engaged in serious developments, for example, on environmental issues.

Training.

Unlike the methods of teaching the English language described above, for which the school has created favorable conditions, the training approach is based on independent study, with the amendment that students are given already developed structured material and clearly explained by the teacher. As in any training, the

student receives a portion of the theory, remembers the rules and uses them in practice. Very often, this technique is used in online learning, including on the educational resource Lim-english.com. Its main advantages are the

presence of a carefully thought-out program, the submission of information necessary to increase the level of English proficiency in the most accessible form and the ability to independently plan the curriculum.

Active English Teaching Methods

The so-called active methods of teaching the English language are distinguished into a separate group, examples of the most widely used techniques are given below.

Round table

The teacher formulates the problem and offers the students a task: to evaluate the significance of the problem, demonstrate all the pros and cons, determine the possible result, etc. Pupils should speak out on the issue presented, argue their position and eventually come to a common solution.

Brainstorm

This technique is also aimed at discussing and solving a problem. However, according to this method of teaching the English language, the audience is divided into two groups - “generators of ideas”, which actually offer ideas, and “experts”, who, after the end of the assault, evaluate the position of each “generator”.

Business game

The teacher prepares a game on the topic studied and explains the rules to students. As a rule, the proposed tasks mimic tasks and situations of real communication, for example, searching and finding a job, concluding a contract, traveling, etc.

Game methodology for learning English for children.

Its main advantages are the lack of a coercive mechanism for classes and great interest on the part of the child. The teacher holds with the children a wide variety of games for the studied vocabulary and grammatical constructions, during which the children quickly memorize them and learn to use them in speech.

Pedagogy and teaching have evolved dramatically in the last few decades. Gone are the days when students had to sit passively and just listen (or, better said, space out) while their teacher gave long lectures. New teaching methods have been integrated into physical and virtual classrooms, significantly improving the learning experience and knowledge retention.

So, what are these new approaches to teaching? Whether you're an elementary or higher education teacher or an online instructor, you need to familiarize yourself with these modern, advanced teaching methods to deliver effective instruction and keep your learners engaged.

The following teaching methodologies will transform your classroom. Integrate as many as possible to create transformative learning experiences for your students.

Let's start with the most popular modern teaching technique. Traditional teaching methods instruct that learners are introduced to the subject in the classroom first, then study independently at home.

In a flipped classroom, students first learn about the subject on their own, then come to the classroom to resolve questions and practice with a collaborative project or another activity that fits the scope of the subject.

This method helps students have an active role and develop more autonomy in their learning. Instead of relying on the teacher to introduce them to the subject and do all the heavy lifting for them, students become their own teachers!

Also known as kinesthetic learning, tactile learning takes place through demonstrations and hands-on activities. This teaching method also applies to online classrooms, with the teacher demonstrating an activity and learners practicing simultaneously from their homes. It's best suited for practical subjects and skills where learners need to develop dexterity or construct things.

The term tactile learning refers to active and collaborative learning. By working at the same pace as the teacher, mistakes can be spotted and corrected immediately, preventing the learner from developing a wrong technique.

VAK learning is broader than the above-mentioned tactile method, as it involves all three different types of learners: visual, auditory, and kinesthetic.

Visual learners absorb information better when they view the material (textbooks, presentations, infographics, diagrams, charts), Auditory learners when they hear it (podcasts, videos, discussions), and Kinesthetic learners as they act out the content.

VAK learning has something for everyone – by using different types of learning material, you can be sure your students will always anticipate what's coming next!

While problem-based learning is similar to project-based learning, it differs in that the problem is presented before anything else is taught.

Learners work together or separately to decide on the best course of action to complete the project. In problem-based learning, the difficulty level gradually increases as we move from basic knowledge and initial discovery to more advanced projects.

Collaborative learning is an umbrella term that includes any project or activity that learners work together on. A lesson plan based on collaborative learning helps build valuable soft skills like teamwork, delegation, time management, collaboration, decision-making, and social skills.

Through collaborative activities, learners also start to work on their self-awareness, as they need to evaluate their strengths and choose their part in the project depending on their skills. The fact that all group members are accountable for the outcome teaches them how their actions can affect the whole group as well.

This learning method is similar to collaborative learning. The teacher organizes students into small groups, assigning each member a specific role and task to carry out. In cooperative learning, students have a common goal to reach – alongside, they learn to collaborate, take responsibility, and develop team spirit.

8. Game-Based Learning

Game-based learning is pretty much what the term describes – using games as part of the instruction process. Games have an element of active learning and are particularly engaging as they are a sort of “distraction” of their own from typical learning. The online, group, or role-playing games can all be part of the syllabus. Games automatically make the learning environment entertaining, and learning becomes an adventure.

By definition, games usually involve a sense of reward and accomplishment, which is why they can be very motivating for learners. Similar to game-based learning is gamification, which involves game mechanics -and not necessarily actual games- like scores, levels, badges, and leaderboards.

9. Inquiry-Based Learning

Inquiry-based learning is a popular learning approach in modern education. Usually, the teacher asks an open-ended question or assigns a project, and learners do their own research to complete the project or form a theory.

Students can complete these activities either individually or in small groups. The teacher can provide the learners with the investigation method they should work with or let learners figure it out on their own. Or, it can all start from zero, with students coming up with the question themselves and working on the solution on their own.

Inquiry-based learning develops essential analytical and reasoning skills and curiosity. Students learn to be resourceful and observant. On a secondary level, this approach is also effective in enhancing communication and presentation skills.

10. Thinking-Based Learning

Thinking-based learning can (and should) be combined with all teaching styles as it's a “complementary” type of learning. A thinking-based activity is asking deeper questions and “challenging” the truth of a given fact.

Thinking-based learning can also come in the form of self-reflection after completing a project. The teacher prompts learners to identify what went right and what went wrong in their methodology and what they could have done instead. This teaching strategy enhances critical thinking, analytical thinking skills, and self-awareness.

11. Competency-Based Learning

Competency-based learning can also be used in conjunction with other methods. In competency-based learning, teachers use learner assessments and hands-on projects to confirm the learner has achieved the desired learning objectives and is fit to move on to a more advanced level of difficulty.

Competency-based learning is, by default, personalized. The course curriculum is not pre-determined; it's continuously adjusting depending on the student's performance. Competency-based learning supports deep learning – learner assessment doesn't measure whether the learner has memorized facts but whether they can actually put their knowledge into action.

12. Independent Learning

In independent learning, students are in full control of their learning, from choosing what they'll learn and how they'll learn to evaluate themselves. The teacher can still be a part of this process, but their role changes to that of a facilitator. They can support the student by giving them learning material and feedback on their progress.

Independent learning is as personalized and flexible as it gets. It gives learners full autonomy and freedom. On the other hand, it often lacks accountability and requires great self-motivation to go through with it.

Today, we've explored some exciting teaching strategies that have gained momentum and changed how students learn. Modern learning experiences are rich, substantial, and interactive, with students developing valuable life skills that will accompany them all their lives.

If you want to create these experiences in an online learning environment, look no further than Learn Worlds. Try our platform with a 30-day free trial and see all the amazing content you can create and build your own online school, complete with learner assessments, gradebook, advanced analytics, and Zoom and Webex integrations for your live sessions!

Modern teaching methods are more engaging and effective. The learner is actively involved and therefore remains engaged, develops a deeper understanding of the topic and a stronger sense of accomplishment. Learning is assessed and confirmed based on actual results.

Because modern teaching methods allow students to explore in-depth and in fascinating ways new topics, students are more likely to discover their true inclinations and develop new interests. It allows for more creativity and self-discovery, as students often challenge themselves.

Teaching English as a second language is a challenge as we can see that for non-native speakers, various methods need to be devised. In India, English

teaching is an exciting task, as we are multilingual and have a diverse socio-economic background. Still, general thinking identifies the English language as a mark of being literate. So teachers of this century put together all the methods to find the best one for our country. Although too much use of visual aids and

gamification of education are still not widespread in our country.

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