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IMPORTANCE OF USING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES IN LANGUAGE CLASSES

Бул макалада азыркы мезгилдеги билим берүү системасындагы жаңы маалыматтык технологияларды колдонуунун мааниси жана ролу жөнүндө сөз болот.

В данной статье рассматриваются роль и использование новых информационных технологий в системе образования.

This article deals with the importance of using information technologies and its role in education system of our republic.

The education system is a mirror that reflects the culture. Look at it, and you will see the social structure and the values of its culture. As we know education in the United States is more democratic than in many other countries. High school graduates take higher percentage. In a western society such as the United States, which has many national, religious, and cultural differences, people highly value individualism – the differences among people and independent thinking. Students do not often memorize information. Instead, they find answers themselves, and they express their ideas in their own way. At an early age, students learn to form their own ideas and opinions.

In most Asian societies, by contrast, the people have the same language, history and culture. Perhaps for this reason, the educational system in much of Asia reflects society's belief in group goals and traditions rather than individualism.

It is the well known fact, that in the United States students spend more time out of classes, while in our country they spend a lot of time or entirely all the time in classes. How do our colleagues from America manage in so case? It is easy to manage due to technology – the internet. At most colleges and universities, all entering students receive an e-mail address. Computer systems are available to everyone in computer labs, the library, and student centers. Application for classes and registration are usually now possible online. Some universities offer entire courses online. Many professors have "office hours", when students can come to talk with them about class work or ask for help. But increasingly, students can contact professors twenty-four hours a day, thanks to e-mail. Perhaps most important for both students and professors, research is now easier and faster because of the new technology.

At present universities of our republic are deeply implementing and developing the methods of teaching since it is the requirement of time. If ten or fifteen years before students just study English language through books or other resources, now everything is changed. Development of new technology influences every sphere of our life as well as education system. For the last years the role of English language is growing to its climax. Present requirements of life and work increasing the need to know English. For example, when a person goes to a job interview they ask the question, "Do you speak English?" it proves the reality of life nowadays. Knowledge of English language does not only mean the language itself, but also the history, culture and way of life of people speaking this language.

Teachers working with students at universities know that learners nowadays think and behave differently than those from previous generations. These students were born into a world of information technology; they prefer to multitask rather than focus on one thing at a time. At present, the task for English teachers is how to engage students and keep them study this language with enthusiasm. Certainly, when the course is taught in one definite way it becomes boring and the effectiveness of learning and teaching decreases. When we, teachers examine the generation that we are teaching, we should understand the nature of this people.

Now we can say that we are teaching the generation who are technologically advanced. Experienced teachers who have been around a while know that the values today's students hold

are not congruent with traditional course content and methods. Teachers who merely follow the textbook are likely to be perceived as "old hat". Therefore, teacher effectiveness depends on the ability to adapt instruction to the needs of today's learners.

The most important characteristic of this generation is its comfort with technology, in other words, today's youth have never known life without computers and the Internet, and therefore see information technology as an integral part of their lives. English language teachers have identified many useful ways to bring new technology into the classroom, implementing video-based activities through sites such as YouTube; incorporating video games, blogs; and making use of instant messages.

Teachers need to understand the nature of this generation and adopt teaching strategies that work with them; otherwise, students feel bored and learning will be minimized. So, the crucial issue is to search up-to-date approaches. As was mentioned above, the role of information technologies is quite suitable for this issue. With the help of the computer programs teachers can enhance the working plans that were designed for teaching. It also increases the opportunity to obtain new ways of engaging students.

It is important to mention that teachers need regular encouragement and guidance about how to use new technologies. Power Point, for instance, is popular software that can promote interaction and learning. However, for new users who lack the proper training, its menus, options, and icons can be frightening. And once teachers have learned how to create a presentation, they must also learn how to incorporate it into their class in a way that present generation will find engaging. Teachers need to understand the nature of this generation and adopt teaching strategies that work with them; otherwise, students feel bored and learning will be minimized.

Learning a language involves a process of maintaining new and engaging information with the help of technology. It is the demand of present life and we cannot escape it. So, in this respect we, teachers also need to be aware with the use of technologies and apply it in a daily basis.

Let's have a look at one lesson plan where we, teachers can use new information technology.

Theme of the lesson: Fashion, Present Simple

Materials: textbook, flipcharts, overhead projector, computer

Objectives: 1. Ss can express themselves on the topic.

2. Ss understand and use Present Simple in their sentences.

3. Ss learn new vocabulary.

4. Ss are able to think critically about the topic.

Skills: Speaking, listening, reading, writing

Activities:

1.   Warm-up. Ss come to the front of the class and stand in a circle. They are given cards with different words (stuck to their backs), and their partners must give clues to help them guess the words.

2.   Presentation.

Teacher explains the Present Simple with the basic rules using a projector. Ss ask questions and discuss the given text with a teacher.

3.   Practice. Ss read the text again carefully and find examples of Present Simple. After time is up, Ss check their work with a partner. Next, Ss check in open class.

Teacher shows some sentences with mistakes on the board with the help of the projector. Ss should find the mistakes and correct those sentences on the computer.

After, Ss are divided into three groups and given pictures. They look at the pictures and make up a story using Present Simple on the flipcharts.

4.   Application. Ss read their stories in open class. Check their works and discuss.

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