

THE USE OF ICEBREAKERS IN ENGLISH AND GERMAN CLASSES

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This article is devoted to icebreakers and their use in English and German classes. These activities are viewed as a way to revise grammar, vocabulary and phonetics on given units and to improve foreign language skills. The definition of the term 'icebreaker' is represented in this work some kinds of icebreakers are given.

Key words: *grammar, vocabulary, icebreakers, English lesson, German lesson.*

ИСПОЛЬЗОВАНИЕ ICEBREAKERS НА ЗАНЯТИЯХ ПО АНГЛИЙСКОМУ И НЕМЕЦКОМУ ЯЗЫКАМ

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Данная статья посвящена icebreakers и их использованию на занятиях по английскому и немецкому языкам. Данный вид деятельности рассматривается как способ повторить пройденный грамматический, лексический и фонетический материал, а также как средство улучшить навыки иностранного языка. В работе рассмотрено определение данного понятия «icebreakers» и приведены его примеры.

Ключевые слова: *грамматика, лексика, icebreakers, урок английского языка, урок немецкого языка.*

A new academic year starts and new old issues appear again. The academic year in Russia usually starts on the first of September and ends at the end of May. It may vary. Of course, many private language schools continue their work in summer, but most students prefer spending their holidays outside. There is no problem – students should have a rest. The problem is faced in September. Students, even those who finished the academic year with excellent marks, may show poor knowledge of a subject or subjects. This is discouraging for both the learners and the trainers. It is worth noting that even after a short break, such as fall, winter, or spring holidays, or for any other reason, a similar situation may occur. And if the group meets for the first time, you just need to create a comfortable communication environment in the classroom.

The aim of the teacher is to return students to the educational process, to interest them. There are a lot of ways to improve foreign language skills [1], [2], [3], [4], [5], [6], [7].

Using activities such as icebreakers in English and German classes can help. To begin with, it is worth noting that these types of activities are becoming more and more popular. The general characteristics include the fact that they are short in time and are aimed at preparing a student to foreign language learning, helping him or her to understand a new topic and revise the theory and exercises learned. In this article, we will view their definition and give examples.

Icebreakers (lit. "breaking the ice") are short time activities used at the beginning of a lesson, they are usually interactive used for working in a group, aimed at getting to know one another. A teacher meets his or her students and the students get to know one another, especially it is good for freshmen who know nobody, but it is not a bad idea for sophomores because if the group meets after a break, these exercises help create a comfortable working atmosphere in the classroom, but they are primarily intended to create a barrier-free environment which is necessary for successful communication in any foreign language. Icebreakers can be grammar, vocabulary, phonetics or mixed.

A good example of icebreakers is a snowball game adapted for foreign language classes. The idea of this exercise is that the first student gives his or her name, and then says the adjective in English that, in his or her opinion, describes him or her best. The task of the next student is to give the name of the previous speaker, repeat the adjective that characterizes him or her, and then give his or her own name and choose the appropriate adjective and then in chain order. This kind of icebreakers can be used as in English language classes so in German language classes.

Another good exercise to get started is "self-portrait". A students or students do a view of themselves to the best of their ability, of course, but using coloured pens or paints. Then the teacher collects

the drawings and sticks them on the Board, then the students try to guess the author [7], using, for example, the vocabulary on the topic "Appearance".

For example, when studying the topic people around, the teacher writes on the board PEOPLE AROUND, and students say aloud in English or German all the words that they associate with the proposed topic. If the words on this topic have already been learned, it is worth asking students to name the already learned words. If the topic is new, then you should not limit the students.

For example, you can read a short article aloud to students in English or German, then ask them what they have understood, what this article is about [8]. Making a crossword is another exercise that will help you train your vocabulary on the topic they have learned. "Guess who" is an exercise where students in a group try to guess who their classmate is portraying by asking him or her questions.

Also, you can ask your students to circle an odd word [9].

To crown it all, it should be noted that using icebreakers is a no limit sphere. It's up to a teacher whether to use them or not. But it seems to us that icebreakers are an integral components of the educational process. It is not necessary to use them every lesson and it is not necessary to use them all at once, because there is a risk that students will simply stop taking classes seriously and treat them light-heartedly, but their dosed use will help create a comfortable working atmosphere in the classroom and develop students' communication skills.

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