

THE USE OF MOBILE TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE FORMATION OF LEXICAL COMPETENCE OF STUDENTS IN NON-LINGUISTIC UNIVERSITY

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Abstract. The use of new information technologies in teaching is one of the most important aspects of improving and optimizing the educational process. In this article, the author examines the formation of students' lexical competence using mobile technologies.

Key words: foreign language, student, teacher, information technology, mobile device, mobile technology, smartphone application, vocabulary, lexical competence.

ИСПОЛЬЗОВАНИЕ МОБИЛЬНЫХ ТЕХНОЛОГИЙ ДЛЯ ФОРМИРОВАНИЯ ЛЕКСИЧЕСКОЙ КОМПЕТЕНЦИИ СТУДЕНТОВ В НЕЯЗЫКОВОМ ВУЗЕ

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Аннотация. Использование новых информационных технологий в обучении является одним из важнейших аспектов совершенствования и оптимизации образовательного процесса. В данной статье автор рассматривает формирование лексической компетенции студентов с использованием мобильных технологий.

Ключевые слова: иностранный язык, студент, преподаватель, информационные технологии, мобильное устройство, мобильные технологии, приложение для смартфона, словарный запас, лексическая компетентность.

Knowledge of a foreign language(s) is still an integral attribute of a successful professional who uses a foreign language as a tool of professional intercultural communication, giving him mobility and a competitive advantage in the international labor market. A specialist in the field of Applied Computer Science should be aware of everything that is happening in his professional sphere in order to carry out intercultural professional communication, which seems impossible without the conceptual and terminological apparatus of the specialty. Foreign language teachers are constantly arguing of what is more important in teaching English: grammar skills or lexical apparatus. The author of the article considers both spheres to be equally important. But as long as we talk about non-linguistic universities where the number of contact hours for the foreign language learning is annually decreasing, giving much attention to learning professional lexical material seems to be justified.

The ability to carry out communication in oral and written forms in a foreign language(s) will depend on the level of formation of professional lexical competence, that is, in accordance with the Federal State Educational Standard of Higher Professional Education of the third generation ++ we are talking about communicative competence. Analysis of scientific and pedagogical literature points out on the dominant role of vocabulary in learning and teaching foreign languages. It is recognized that vocabulary is an important component of the language [1-7]. When graduates find themselves in the situation of “real communication” with their foreign colleagues, it is absolutely important to possess the professional terminology in order to be able to conduct productive professional communication. Knowing the vocabulary promotes better understanding between specialists in different fields. Moreover, they may use the extra linguistic factors to facilitate their cooperation in the specialized spheres.

T.G.Rybalko notes: “Lexical competence is an integral component of the language training of a future specialist”. Students' lack of knowledge of words can lead to a failure in communication, as they will not be able to convey what they want to express during a conversation or letter. This can be overcome by systematically improving lexical competence, which will contribute to improving overall communicative

competence, since a rich vocabulary facilitates such types of speech activity as listening, speaking, reading and writing, contributing to effective and successful communication [19].

Since the process of learning vocabulary is time-consuming and often difficult for students, teachers often look for ways to intensify this process. At present, teachers have different opportunities to introduce information and communication technologies (ICT) in foreign language classes [7-10, 13-14]. The advantages of using ICT in the foreign language teaching cannot be overestimated. Modern students perceive the learning process better and more enthusiastic when various applications are being used. Digital environment helps them feel at ease, stay in their so-called “comfort zone”, adapt to the learning process and overcome difficulties on different levels.

But sometimes technical equipment of the educational institution makes it impossible to realize these opportunities. The technical progress develops very energetically and the material base at the universities becomes out-of-date rather quickly. However, recently there have appeared online services that require minimal material and time costs. These are various on-line services that can help create web-quests, facilitate learning grammar and vocabulary. Applications and on-line services can be used as an independent method and as an additional element of language learning in courses, with a tutor, in educational institutions. The main advantage of this method of study is the opportunity to study in a convenient mode for you, anywhere. Almost all applications are designed for people with different levels of English. Resource capabilities allow you to determine this level and set the necessary option for study.

There are the following types of applications:

Universal. They include options that allow you to work on all the skills in language learning: reading, writing, speaking, listening.

For quick memorization of English words. Each new word is memorized with the help of several different workouts. Daily exercises and repetitions consolidate the result.

Dictionaries for Android and iOS. Electronic dictionaries with transcription, voiceover, thesaurus and other functional elements.

For perception by ear. Create maximum immersion in spoken language. Podcasts, audio tutorials, videos, songs, etc. are used in the database of materials.

Learning grammar. They include effective tools for learning grammatical features of the language.

Improved pronunciation. They include audio recordings of native speakers, provide an opportunity to repeat what they have heard, record their pronunciation and compare.

News applications. Learning a language with the help of news materials: articles, reports, videos, audio broadcasts and more.

In our opinion, one of such effective solutions is Quizlet online service. Quizlet online service offers a game-based learning option by creating special lexical sets, the so-called sets. Gamification has always been very attractive for students and promotes tension relief, especially when they deal with the foreign language. The “Foreign language” discipline is understandably considered to be one of the most difficult for many students of the non-linguistic universities. That is why the goal of the foreign language teacher is to support the students, make them feel safe and sure in achieving the result.

Quizlet online service allows the students to use other people's kits that have already been developed by other users, as well as create their own. Among the presented material there are cards on various topics, and you can choose the most appropriate one, for example, information technologies for our students. There are two modes of working with cards: 1) "study" mode: flashcards, memorization, writing, spelling, test; 2) "play" mode: selection, gravity, live.

In the card mode, students see all the cards, turn them over to repeat terms and definitions. In the memorization mode, an individual training plan will be created based on mastering the module material. To complete the stage, it is necessary to answer each question correctly twice. At the end of each stage, all terms will be grouped by the level of mastery of them: "familiar" means that the student answered correctly once, and "learned" – twice. In this mode, you can set a deadline for memorizing all cards, track progress and receive reminders from the application. In the writing mode, a definition or picture of the term will be given and it is assessed how well the student knows the material and whether he makes mistakes in writing. When the student finishes the first stage, the writing mode will start the second, which will use the questions that were answered incorrectly in the first stage. To complete the writing mode stage and view your results, you need to answer each question correctly twice. In the spelling mode, you need to register what you have heard. In testing mode, different test variants are automatically created (matching, multiple choice, true/false, fill the gap). In the matching game, students match the correct terms to the definitions as quickly as possible and compete against each other for time. In the gravity game, students must give correct answers to save the planet from asteroid impacts.

The faculty members of the Foreign Languages and Professional Communications Department of KSAU have an experience of using different on-line services in order to motivate students, to make the process of learning English more interesting and innovative [11-12, 15-18, 20], for example students of direction 09.03.03 Applied Computer Science highly appreciated the effectiveness of using this service in the formation of lexical competence, noting that the process of learning vocabulary has become more productive, for example, when studying following topics: "People around me", "The systems of education", etc.

Thus, the usage of information technologies, in this case, Quizlet online service allows teachers to use diverse and relevant material to teach the lexical side of the language training of future specialists, in particular students in the field of Applied Computer Science, and also solves the problem of lack of classroom time. As a result, this service provides a practice-oriented and individual approach to teaching foreign languages. Moreover, Quizlet online service is able not only to intensify the process of learning foreign languages, but also to increase motivation to learn a foreign (English) language and provide effective conditions for the formation of lexical competence. Quizlet helps to create an interactive learning environment in order to form lexical competence. The use of mobile technologies made it possible to integrate into both classroom and extracurricular work of students. The positive results of such an approach are proved by the fact that students of the above-mentioned direction show their English language skills in various linguistic events organized by the Foreign Languages and Professional Communications Department such as: foreign language Olympiads, scientific conferences in English where the students make reports in the sphere of technical, natural and humanitarian sciences, role-plays, etc. The Foreign Languages and Professional Communications Department has a very positive statistics on the number of students who are annually taking part in these events, as well as the increased number of students who are awarded prizes for their participation.

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