

TEACHING MODERN ENGLISH IN DISTANCE EDUCATION

**ВИКЛАДАННЯ СУЧАСНОЇ АНГЛІЙСЬКОЇ МОВИ
В УМОВАХ ДИСТАНЦІЙНОЇ ОСВІТИ**

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ABSTRACT

The article focuses on the description of the peculiarities of English language teaching on the subject Modern English in higher educational institutions during the Pandemic 2020.

Mutual understanding is an important factor of our country's survival in connection with economic crises connected with the pandemic COVID 19. The orientation of modern methods of teaching foreign languages to the real conditions of communication is vital. The final result of teaching Modern English is aimed not only at language competence, but for successful communication and mutual understanding.

The aim of the article is to reveal the existing problems of modern education system and teaching English in new reality. The article suggests the progressive ways of learning Modern English in the conditions of distance education.

The use of modern information technologies, participation in international conferences and seminars improves professional training of both students and teachers.

Distance learning is widely spread nowadays in many universities and institutions of higher education in Ukraine. The article deals with the problem of distance learning and the possibility of solving it with the help of modern technologies, the use of which allows giving the convenience and flexibility of remote work.

The results of the research can serve as a basis for further study of the peculiarities of English language teaching on the subject Modern English in higher educational institutions.

Key Words: *communication, distance education, foreign languages, Modern English, teaching.*

Foreign language is very important in studying the peculiarities of communication with different nations, which is very important for international relations between countries in new reality.

Formulation of the problem. The relevance of the problem lies in the fact that today for adequate communication and mutual understanding between nations it is necessary to master modern methods of teaching foreign languages to be familiar with conditions of communication in new reality (for example, such as virtual diplomacy).

The object of the research is Modern English.

The subject of the research is the description of teaching Modern English in distance education.

The research represents the description of modern distance education and the attempts to teach Modern English in new reality.

Analysis of recent research and publications. Aspects of Modern English have become a subject of study for many modern scientists and text book writers, such as S. Gramley, A. Komarov, S. Komarovskaya, R. Reznik, D. Turchin and others.

Nowadays, in spite of the amount of works, devoted to Modern English, there is a lack of the research combined with teaching of the subject «Modern English» in conditions of distance education.

The **aim of the article** is to reveal the existing problems of modern education system and English teaching in new reality, to define methods of learning Modern English in the conditions of distance education.

Presenting main material. Distance learning English became possible due to the development of the Internet and the emergence of various multimedia technologies.

Modern education is based on personal-oriented learning, individualization and differentiation of educational activity, the formation of motivation for learning and self-development of trainees (Мухитдинова, 2017: 183-185).

These conceptual ideas of education are successfully implemented in the modern information and educational environment that provides the organization of the educational process with the help of information communication technologies both internally and remotely. In this regard, special importance is given to such problems as the methodical preparation of teachers and teachers of foreign languages for the use of new technologies in the educational process and the formation of their information and communication competence (Кузьмина, 2012: 17-23).

The discipline «Modern English» is intended to deepen the professional competencies of students of the Faculty of foreign languages, but can also be recommended for students of other specialties who are interested in English. The discipline studies Modern English and features of its use.

The purpose of studying the discipline is: to enrich the vocabulary (thematic and active), expand the boundaries of its activation, teach students to communicate, express and defend their own opinion, maintain a conversation on various topics of our time, discuss in English, familiarize applicants for higher education with the features of modern English.

The course forms students' communicative, linguistic and socio-cultural competencies.

«Modern English» is a selective academic discipline for training specialists of the Bachelor's level of education, the branches of knowledge (training) area / specialty «014 Secondary Education (014.02 Language and Literature (English))» and «035 Philology (035.04 Germanic languages and Literature (Translation) English))».

Among the textbooks on «Modern English» is the textbook of A. Komarov «Textbook of the Modern English language», S. Komarovskaya «Modern English grammar. Practical course», R. Reznik «A Grammar of Modern English Usage», Stephan Gramley «Survey of Modern English» (which represents comprehensive, scholarly and systematic review of modern English in one volume). It presents a description of both the linguistic structure of present-day English and its geographical, social, gender and ethnic variations. The textbook «English for International Relations» by Dmytro Turchin offers a fresh look at various aspects of life from recent articles and the latest reports of foreign mass media. It is recommended for students of professional faculties of higher educational institutions in Ukraine. The textbook is useful for those who want to develop communication and translation skills on international and socio-political topics.

The forms and methods of current control include oral survey of students on practical classes, discussions, individual tasks. The form of intermediate control is a Test. The form of final control is a credit. The tools for diagnosing learning outcomes and criteria for evaluating learning outcomes are provided in the syllabus of the academic discipline posted on the website.

Among the tasks for independent work, we suggest a report using additional literature and presentation in Power Point.

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A wide thematic spectrum of classes covers a wide range of 24 topics (and more than 100 sub-topics related to current problems of our time. Among them: «*Globalization*», «*Economic Integration*», «*Foreign trade*», «*Human Migration*», «*European Union*» «*Diplomacy*», «*Negotiations*», «*Diplomatic Agreements*», «*Dining Etiquette*», «*International Cooperation on Global warming*», «*Environmental Disasters*», «*Terrorism*», «*Arms Control*», «*Warfare and peace*», «*Weapon of mass Destruction*», «*The Power of Public Speaking*», «*Shaping of Public Opinion*», «*How to be an effective communicator*», «*Mass media*», «*Advertising*», «*Technology: 21-st century Internet Genetic Engineering*», «*Science and technology*», «*Artificial Intelligence*», «*Nuclear Power*», «*Nanotechnology*», «*Assessing technology and its effects on society*», «*Cultural Diversity*», «*Cultural identity*», «*Ideological Culture*» and many others.

Due to its large use and wide distribution area, English has a lot of vocabulary with many synonymous words. At the same time, its grammar is simple, without taking into account a sufficient number of exceptions to the rules and irregular verbs that need to be studied. Most words are monosyllabic. Punctuation in modern English is one of the easiest in the world. Difficulty occurs only in spelling, as writing English words often does not match the pronunciation.

Modern English language is characterized by simplification, compression of phrases, usage of slang vocabulary. Often in spoken language there is a disregard for the rules of grammar, reduction of words and «swallowing» of endings, as a result of which it is difficult for an unprepared person to perceive such language by ear.

Modern English is so dynamic that it is best to communicate directly with native speakers to learn it. For beginners who do not know the language well enough to go abroad to study, the best solution is seminars led by an English teacher. Such classes combine the performance of written tasks and live communication, which allows learning the spelling and sound of new vocabulary simultaneously. In addition, when in contact with a native speaker, the speaker does not consciously copy and imitate the manner of speech of the interlocutor – at the subconscious level, the correct pronunciation and intonation are learned.

The main goal that we set for ourselves, using modern technologies in learning a foreign language is to show how technology can be effectively used to improve the quality of teaching foreign language students, the formation and development of their communicative culture, learning the practical mastery of a foreign language (Nursultanova, 2020: 104-109).

The use of smartphones during classes of Modern English allows playing with students. The most popular among students is *Kahoot* (a game-based learning platform used in educational institutions; a relatively new service for creating online quizzes, tests and surveys), which can be used to test students' knowledge or as a break in classes.

The use of information and communication technologies at classes increases the technological and information students' literacy, develop their soft skills (social, psychological, emotional and other skills that a person uses in solving various life situations: household, work, interpersonal). The conference format helps to get acquainted with the peculiarities of etiquette and rules of behavior in video communication, which is becoming more common and is used not only for communicating with friends, but also in business conversations, training and interviews. Real-time dialogues in Zoom allow students to improve their speaking skills.

In the modern world, the use of various technologies, including mobile applications, which contribute to the improvement of the educational process, is becoming increasingly popular. Today, there is a fairly large set of information technology tools available to the teacher. These technologies contribute to the development of intellectual and creative students' abilities, increase their motivations. The use of these technologies helps to fill the classes with new content, creates a favorable atmosphere for working in the classroom, accelerates the learning process and increases students' interest in the subject. The appropriate use of ICT technologies makes the classes of Modern English more entertaining and effective. Today, the use of ICT technologies in teaching English is one of the most important aspects of improving the

educational process.

The following digital technologies and resources can be used in classes on Modern English:

<https://Learningapps.org> (*Learning Apps* – service for creating interactive tasks and interactive tests), www.raptivity.com (program for creating interactive exercises), <https://storymap.knightlab.com> (program for creating virtual excursions), *ThingLink* interactive poster (used to create interactive posters, infographics, itinerary sheets, time feeds and newspapers), *Padlet* (virtual whiteboard) and others.

Among the creative tasks we can suggest the game «Virtual Diplomacy», which presents virtual meetings for discussion various problems between different countries.

Among the advantages of teaching Modern English in distance education is the fact, that students, who miss classes, can find their content on the Moodle platform (Сальхова, 2015: 207-210). It helps students who are ill, work or live far and can't attend classes to participate in the process of teaching.

Language is a living matter that is constantly evolving and changing along with the culture of the speakers. Therefore, in order to successfully master a foreign language and learn to feel it, it is necessary to know its history, to understand what caused various changes.

Good knowledge of a foreign language promotes intercultural connections and contacts, provides an opportunity to study and effectively use foreign experience of intercultural communication, use modern information technologies, participate in international congresses and seminars, undergo internships in foreign countries to improve professional training.

Modern English is a number of regional options – British, American, Canadian, Australian, New Zealand and others. The most widely used of these are the two main varieties: *British English* (which has several dozen dialects) and *American English* (which today rightfully occupies a dominant position in the world).

British English is more conservative, requires strict adherence to grammatical rules, in particular – strict adherence to the correct order of words in a sentence, does not tolerate abbreviations and «swallowing» word endings (significantly different pronunciation with characteristic elongated vowels, as well as the intonation of sentences). However, modern life makes its adjustments, and the younger generation of English, keeping pace with the global linguistic trend, seeks to simplify the language.

The so-called *Royal English* is a dialect spoken by a large part of the British population. However, the British Isles have dozens of other dialects, some of which have survived only in the most remote regions and are hardly used in everyday life.

The American version of English is considered to be very simplistic at all levels of English, which has become impoverished in the process of such transformations. In fact, this transformation of language is due to a different culture – more relaxed and dynamic. In America, it is impossible to imagine a smooth measured speech «in the nose» in perfectly correct English. Another pace of life and other values gave rise to another language – concise and simplified

Practical knowledge of foreign languages in the period of expanding political, economic, scientific and cultural ties of Ukraine with foreign countries help young professionals to acquire in-depth knowledge in their field of science, enable wider use of foreign sources for successful research within our country and in the framework of international cooperation, cultural and scientific exchange.

Thus, distance learning, introduced in many universities (institutions of higher education) around the world in 2020, is widely developed in Ukraine too. The introduction of distance education solved the problem of implementing the state education program through modern technologies, the use of which allowed combining the advantages of full – time education, while giving the convenience and flexibility of remote work, namely, communication in a team, access to individually created materials and classes in comfortable conditions for students. Blended (hybrid) form of education (on-line and off line) allows covering a wider range of information in

a short time.

Conclusions. It is revealed that special importance of teaching Modern English in pandemic is given to such problems as the methodical preparation of teachers and teachers of foreign languages for the use of new technologies in the educational process and the formation of their information and communication competence. It is necessary to master the ICT and develop soft skills for both teachers and students. The use of modern technologies (virtual interactive whiteboard, Padlet, Learning Apps, ThingLink and the Kahoot application) is the ideal tool for working online.

The prospect of further research is to find out the peculiarities of teaching Modern English using new ICT technologies. Among the **perspectives of further research** is the study of linguistic and cultural approach in teaching foreign languages.

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АНОТАЦІЯ

Стаття розглядає особливості викладання сучасної англійської мови у закладах вищої освіти у період пандемії 2020 року.

Використання цифрових технологій вважається основною вимогою в багатьох професійних областях. Це, звичайно, стосується і освіти. Тепер за допомогою цифрових технологій викладачі можуть ефективніше презентувати матеріал, тому можливості навчання значно розширюються.

Якісне володіння іноземною мовою сприяє поширенню міжкультурних зв'язків та контактів, надає можливість вивчати та ефективно використовувати іноземний досвід міжкультурного спілкування, користуватися сучасними інформаційними технологіями, брати участь у міжнародних конференціях та семінарах, проходити стажування в іноземних державах з метою вдосконалення фахової підготовки.

Міжнародне співробітництво є важливим способом виживання нації в сучасному світі у зв'язку з економічними кризами під час пандемії COVID 19. Розвиток міжнародних відносин визначає орієнтацію сучасних методів навчання іноземних мов на реальні умови спілкування.

Кінцевий результат навчання спрямований не тільки на мовну компетенцію, а й на засвоєння величезної кількості екстралінгвістичної інформації, необхідної для адекватного спілкування і взаєморозуміння.

Мета статті – розкрити існуючі проблеми сучасної системи освіти та викладання англійської мови в нових реаліях. Стаття пропонує спосіб вивчення англійської мови в умовах дистанційного навчання.

Щоб оптимізувати взаєморозуміння між країнами з різних питань, необхідно вивчити основні особливості традицій та культури інших народів.

Дистанційне навчання отримало широкий розвиток у 2020 р. у багатьох університетах України. У статті розглядається проблема впровадження нової системи навчання, яка реалізує державну освітню програму в рамках дистанційного навчання, і можливість її вирішення за допомогою сучасних технологій, використання яких дозволяє поєднувати переваги очного навчання, забезпечуючи при цьому зручність і гнучкість дистанційної роботи, а саме: спілкування в колективі, почуття причетності, доступ в індивідуально створених матеріалів і занять в комфортних для студентів умовах.

Змішана (гібридна) форма навчання (он-лайн і офлайн) дозволяє за короткий час охопити на заняттях більш широке коло інформації про сучасну англійську мову.

Виявлено, що використання різних ІКТ технологій, в тому числі мобільних додатків, сприяють вдосконаленню проведення практичних занять із предмету «Сучасна англійська мова».

Ключові слова: викладання, дистанційна освіта, іноземні мови, комунікація, сучасна англійська мова.