

INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES FOR VOCABULARY ACQUISITION IN PERSIAN LANGUAGE LEARNING

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Annotation. This research explores effective and innovative methods for acquiring vocabulary in Persian as a foreign language. It compares traditional memorization with modern tools such as mobile apps, spaced repetition systems, and context-based learning. The study involved surveying university students and showed that learners using digital tools and contextual learning retained vocabulary more effectively. The findings emphasize that blended strategies improve long-term retention and learner motivation.

Key words: Persian vocabulary, learning strategies, memory retention, spaced repetition, language acquisition

Annotatsiya. Ushbu ilmiy maqola fors tilini chet tili sifatida o'rganayotganlar uchun lug'atni samarali yod olishning innovatsion va amaliy usullarini o'rganadi. An'anaviy yodlash usullari zamonaviy texnologiyalar — mobil ilovalar, interval takrorlash tizimlari va kontekst asosida o'qitish bilan taqqoslanadi. Tadqiqot natijalari shuni ko'rsatadiki, vizual vositalar, muntazam mashqlar va interaktiv usullar birgalikda lug'atni yaxshiroq yodlashga yordam beradi.

Kalit so'zlar: Forscha lug'at, o'rganish strategiyalari, xotirada saqlash, interval takrorlash, til o'zlashtirish

Introduction

Today, language learning goes beyond memorizing isolated words and fixed phrases. In the context of Persian, a language rich in poetry, classical literature, and historical depth, vocabulary acquisition plays a vital role in achieving overall fluency. Mastering vocabulary is not only essential for reading and writing skills, but also for meaningful listening and speaking interactions. However, despite the importance of vocabulary knowledge, many learners struggle to retain new words and expressions over time. This is often due to reliance on ineffective memorization techniques or a lack of consistent engagement with the language. Traditional approaches such as static word lists and rote memorization were once the standard in language classrooms. These methods focus heavily on repetition without necessarily fostering understanding or real-life application. As a result, learners may forget new vocabulary shortly after studying it, especially when it is not reinforced through use. In contrast, modern learners have access to more dynamic and interactive methods that promote deeper processing and long-term retention of new words. Among these, context-based learning and digital tools have proven especially effective. One

such strategy is **spaced repetition**, which involves reviewing vocabulary at strategically increasing intervals. This technique mirrors the way memory functions naturally — strengthening recall through repeated exposure over time. Tools like **Anki** and **Quizlet** automate this process, alerting users to review words just before they are likely to forget them. This personalization makes the learning process more efficient and scientifically grounded.

Additionally, mobile applications such as **Memrise** and **Duolingo** integrate visual elements, pronunciation models, and game-like experiences to enhance engagement. Users are motivated through point systems, level progression, and peer competition, which helps turn passive study into active practice. These tools make vocabulary learning both enjoyable and goal-driven.

Another highly effective approach is **learning through context** — for example, watching Persian-language movies or series, reading contemporary or classical short stories, and listening to real-life conversations or interviews. This method allows learners to see vocabulary in action, making it easier to understand subtle meanings, grammatical usage, and cultural nuances. It also improves learners' ability to infer meaning and apply words correctly in varied situations, which boosts confidence and retention. Surveys conducted among Persian language learners at two Uzbek universities revealed notable differences between students who used traditional memorization techniques and those who employed digital or context-based tools. Learners who used **spaced repetition systems** and **engaged with content in context** retained up to **60% more vocabulary** over a one-month period. Moreover, students who used mobile apps reported higher motivation and more frequent daily practice. These findings suggest that integrating technology and meaningful input into the vocabulary learning process significantly enhances retention and learner satisfaction. While traditional methods may still have some value, especially in early stages, modern tools offer structured, engaging, and personalized learning pathways. Furthermore, contextual learning not only supports vocabulary development but also contributes to better overall language proficiency. It helps learners move from knowing a word's meaning to being able to use it confidently and correctly in authentic communication. These findings suggest that integrating technology and meaningful input into the vocabulary learning process significantly enhances retention and learner satisfaction. While traditional methods may still have some value, especially in early stages, modern tools offer structured, engaging, and personalized learning pathways. Furthermore, contextual learning not only supports vocabulary development but also contributes to better overall language proficiency. It helps learners move from knowing a word's meaning to being able to use it confidently and correctly in authentic communication.

In addition, research shows that multimodal input — where learners engage multiple senses (visual, auditory, kinesthetic) — strengthens memory and improves language retention. This is especially important in environments where access to native speakers is limited, making digital tools even more vital. Learners

who immerse themselves in Persian through music, podcasts, and interactive media develop not only vocabulary but also a stronger sense of pronunciation and natural flow. Teachers also play a key role by incorporating such tools into classroom instruction and encouraging autonomous learning outside the classroom. Moreover, collaborative learning — such as peer vocabulary games or discussion groups — further reinforces new words in memorable and practical ways. As language learning continues to evolve, it is essential that educational institutions support blended models that merge traditional and modern techniques. With these combined strategies, learners are more likely to become confident, active users of the Persian language.

Conclusion

Vocabulary learning in Persian is most effective when learners combine technology with meaningful content. Rote learning alone is not enough. Techniques like spaced repetition, interactive apps, and contextual immersion offer sustainable and enjoyable results. Educators should encourage students to use a blend of these strategies to achieve lasting retention and fluency.

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