THE DEVELOPMENT OF LISTENING SKILLS: A COMPARATIVE STUDY

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Abstract. The development of listening skills plays a crucial role in foreign language acquisition, as it forms the foundation for effective communication. This study examines the importance of listening comprehension, the challenges learners face, and the role of digital tools in enhancing listening abilities. Using a descriptive and comparative methodology, the research analyzes traditional and modern approaches to listening instruction. Special attention is given to the use of multimedia resources, interactive platforms, and authentic materials in improving learners' listening competence.

Key words: listening skills, language acquisition, digital tools, comprehension, multimedia resources, foreign language learning.

Аннотация. Развитие навыков аудирования играет ключевую роль в изучении иностранного языка, так как оно является основой эффективной коммуникации. В данной работе рассматриваются значение понимания на слух, трудности, с которыми сталкиваются учащиеся, а также роль цифровых инструментов в развитии навыков аудирования. В исследовании используется описательная и сравнительная методология для анализа традиционных и современных подходов к обучению аудированию. Особое внимание уделяется использованию мультимедийных ресурсов, интерактивных платформ и аутентичных материалов для повышения уровня понимания речи.

Ключевые слова: аудирование, изучение языка, цифровые инструменты, понимание, мультимедийные ресурсы, иностранный язык.

Annotatsiya. Tinglab tushunish ko'nikmalarining rivojlanishi chet tilini o'rganishda muhim ahamiyatga ega, chunki u samarali muloqotning asosini tashkil etadi. Ushbu maqolada tinglab tushunishning ahamiyati, o'quvchilar duch keladigan muammolar hamda ushbu ko'nikmani rivojlantirishda raqamli vositalarning roli o'rganiladi. Tadqiqotda an'anaviy va zamonaviy yondashuvlarni tahlil qilish uchun tavsifiy va taqqoslash metodologiyasidan foydalaniladi. Multimedia resurslari, interaktiv platformalar va autentik materiallarning tinglab tushunish darajasini oshirishdagi o'rni alohida ko'rib chiqiladi.

Kalit so'zlar: tinglab tushunish, til o'rganish, raqamli vositalar, tushunish, multimedia resurslari, chet tili.

Listening is one of the fundamental skills in language learning, alongside speaking, reading, and writing. It is often considered the most challenging skill because it requires learners to process information in real time [4]. In the context of globalization and increasing intercultural communication, the ability to understand spoken language accurately has become more important than ever.

Learners frequently face difficulties such as fast speech, unfamiliar accents, and limited vocabulary. These challenges are especially evident in the early stages of language acquisition. Moreover, traditional teaching methods have often neglected

DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.19629302

listening practice, focusing more on grammar and reading. This has created a gap between theoretical knowledge and practical communication skills.

The integration of digital technologies has significantly transformed language learning. Various digital tools provide learners with access to authentic audio and video materials, allowing them to practice listening in real-life contexts. Platforms such as podcasts, online lectures, and language learning applications offer diverse listening experiences. One of the main advantages of digital tools is flexibility. Learners can listen to materials at their own pace, repeat difficult sections, and choose content according to their proficiency level [5]. Additionally, interactive features such as subtitles and transcripts help learners understand complex information more effectively. Multimedia resources, including videos and audio recordings, also enhance motivation. Visual support helps learners interpret meaning, while repeated exposure improves comprehension and retention. As a result, digital tools create a more engaging and effective learning environment.

Despite the advantages of digital tools, several challenges remain. One of the main issues is the over-reliance on subtitles, which may reduce learners' ability to process spoken language independently[3]. Furthermore, not all digital content is suitable for educational purposes, and learners may struggle to select appropriate materials. Another difficulty is the lack of interaction in some digital environments. Listening is not only about understanding but also about responding. Without opportunities for communication, learners may find it difficult to develop active listening skills. Therefore, a balanced approach that combines digital tools with classroom interaction is essential.

Traditional listening instruction often involved repetitive exercises and limited exposure to authentic speech. In contrast, modern approaches emphasize real-life communication and the use of technology[1]. Digital tools provide access to a wide range of accents, speaking styles, and contexts, which helps learners adapt to different situations.While traditional methods focus on accuracy, modern approaches prioritize comprehension and practical use. The combination of both methods can lead to more effective results, as learners benefit from structured practice as well as authentic input.

The development of listening skills is a vital component of foreign language learning [2]. Digital tools have greatly enhanced the process by providing flexible, engaging, and authentic learning opportunities. However, they should be used alongside traditional teaching methods to achieve the best results. A balanced approach that integrates technology with human guidance ensures that learners develop not only comprehension but also critical listening abilities. Future research should focus on improving digital resources and adapting them to learners' needs in different educational contexts.

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