

THE ROLE OF COMMUNICATIVE ACTIVITIES IN DEVELOPING ENGLISH SPEAKING SKILLS FOR EFL STUDENTS

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Abstract: Communicative activities play an important role in developing English speaking skills of students who learn English as a foreign language. Speaking is one of the most difficult skills for EFL students because it requires not only grammar knowledge but also vocabulary, pronunciation, and confidence. Communicative activities such as pair work, group discussions, role plays, interviews, and presentations help students practice real-life communication in the classroom. This article discusses the importance of communicative activities in developing speaking skills, the types of communicative activities used in English language classrooms, and their impact on students' motivation and confidence. The article also explains how communicative language teaching helps students become more active and independent language learners.

Key words: communicative activities; speaking skills; EFL students; communication; language learning; classroom interaction; fluency; pair work; group work; communicative language teaching.

Annotatsiya: Kommunikativ faoliyatlar xorijiy til sifatida ingliz tilini o'rganayotgan talabalar (EFL) uchun og'zaki ko'nikmalarini rivojlantirishda muhim rol o'ynaydi. So'zlash ko'nikmasi nafaqat grammatika bilimini, balki lug'at, talaffuz va ishonchni ham talab qiladigan eng qiyin ko'nikmalardan biridir. Juftlik ishi, guruhli muhokamalar, rolli o'yinlar, intervyular va taqdimotlar kabi kommunikativ faoliyatlar talabalar uchun sinf xonasida real hayotiy muloqotni mashq qilishga yordam beradi. Ushbu maqola kommunikativ faoliyatlarning og'zaki ko'nikmalarni rivojlantirishdagi ahamiyatini, ingliz tili sinf xonalarida qo'llaniladigan kommunikativ faoliyat turlarini va ularning talabalar motivatsiyasi hamda ishonchiga ta'sirini muhokama qiladi.

Kalit so'zlar: Kommunikativ faoliyatlar; gapirish ko'nikmalari; ingliz tilini chet tili sifatida o'rganuvchi talabalar; muloqot; til o'rganish; sinfdagi o'zaro muloqot; ravonlik (erkin gapira olish); juftlikda ishlash; guruhda ishlash; kommunikativ til o'qitish usuli.

Аннотация: Коммуникативные виды деятельности играют важную роль в развитии навыков разговорной речи на английском языке у студентов, изучающих его как иностранный (EFL). Речь является одним из наиболее сложных навыков для студентов EFL, поскольку она требует не только знания грамматики, но и словарного запаса, произношения и уверенности в себе. Коммуникативные виды деятельности, такие как работа в парах, групповые дискуссии, ролевые игры, интервью и презентации, помогают студентам практиковать реальное общение в классе. В данной статье рассматриваются важность коммуникативных видов деятельности в развитии навыков разговорной речи, типы коммуникативных видов деятельности, используемых на уроках английского языка, и их влияние на мотивацию и уверенность студентов.

Ключевые слова: Коммуникативные виды деятельности; навыки говорения; учащиеся, изучающие английский как иностранный язык; общение; изучение языка; взаимодействие в классе; беглость речи; работа в парах; работа в группах; коммуникативное обучение языку.

Introduction

In language learning, speaking is considered one of the most important skills because it allows students to communicate with others. However, many EFL students find speaking difficult because they are afraid of making mistakes, they have limited vocabulary, or they do not have enough practice. Traditional teaching methods often focus more on grammar and writing, and students do not get enough opportunities to speak in the classroom. Communicative language teaching focuses on communication and interaction. It encourages students to use language in real-life situations instead of only learning grammar rules. Communicative activities help students practice speaking in a natural way and improve their fluency, pronunciation, and confidence.

Communicative Activities in the Classroom

Communicative activities are activities that require students to communicate with each other in English. These activities include pair work, group work, role plays, problem-solving tasks, interviews, discussions, and presentations. Such activities create a student-centered classroom where students actively participate in the learning process. For example, in pair work activities, students ask and answer questions, practice dialogues, or discuss different topics. In group work activities, students work together to solve problems, prepare presentations, or discuss ideas. Role plays help students practice real-life situations such as ordering food, making phone calls, or talking to a teacher or a friend. These activities help students use English for real communication, not only for completing grammar exercises.

Advantages of Communicative Activities

Communicative activities have many advantages in developing speaking skills. First, they give students more opportunities to speak in the classroom. Instead of only listening to the teacher, students can practice speaking with their classmates.

Second, communicative activities increase students' confidence. When students practice speaking regularly, they become less afraid of making mistakes and more confident in using English. Third, communicative activities improve fluency. Students learn how to express their ideas, give opinions, agree and disagree, and continue conversations. They also learn how to use language in different social situations. Another advantage is that communicative activities make lessons more interesting and interactive. Students usually enjoy discussions, games, and role plays more than traditional exercises.

Challenges of Using Communicative Activities

Although communicative activities are very useful, teachers may face some challenges when using them in the classroom. One problem is that some students may be shy and do not want to speak in front of others. Teachers need to create a friendly and supportive classroom environment so that students feel comfortable speaking. Another problem is that communicative activities may take more time than traditional exercises. Teachers need to plan lessons carefully and manage time effectively. In addition, during group work or pair work, students may sometimes speak in their native language instead of English. Teachers should encourage students to use English as much as possible during communicative activities.

The Role of the Teacher

In communicative language teaching, the teacher's role is different from traditional teaching. The teacher is not only a lecturer but also a facilitator and organizer of classroom activities. The teacher prepares communicative tasks, monitors students' work, and helps students when necessary. Teachers should also give feedback on students' speaking, correct major mistakes, and encourage students to continue speaking. It is important for teachers to motivate students and create interesting speaking activities that develop communication skills.

Conclusion

In conclusion, communicative activities play a very important role in developing English speaking skills of EFL students. They help students practice real communication, improve fluency, increase confidence, and make lessons more interactive and interesting. Although there are some challenges in using communicative activities, their advantages are much greater. Teachers should use different communicative activities such as pair work, group discussions, role plays, and presentations to help students develop their speaking skills. Communicative language teaching helps students become active participants in the learning process and improves their overall language ability.

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