

TIPS FOR CONDUCTING AN INTERESTING ENGLISH LESSON

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Abstract. In the article, the author, being a student of the pedagogical university, shares his practical experience on making the English language lesson interesting. Some most successful strategies and tips are enumerated.

Key words: foreign language, methodology, advantages, disadvantages, tips, skills, motivation, practical application.

РЕКОМЕНДАЦИИ ПО ПРОВЕДЕНИЮ ИНТЕРЕСНОГО УРОКА АНГЛИЙСКОГО ЯЗЫКА

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Аннотация. В статье автор, будучи студентом педагогического университета, делится своим практическим опытом по тому, как сделать урок английского языка интересным. Перечислены некоторые наиболее успешные стратегии и рекомендации.

Ключевые слова: иностранный язык, методика, преимущества, недостатки, советы, навыки, мотивация, практическое применение.

If a student is studying at a pedagogical university or has chosen a specialty in which he will receive the qualification of a teacher, during the training he will have to pass a pedagogical practical training. Pedagogical training is the most important component of the system of professional training of future teachers [5], [6], [19]. It acts as a connecting stage between the theoretical education of the student and his future independent work at school or university. Pedagogical practice is a special form of organization of university training of students, the sphere of real pedagogical activity, the place of “testing” oneself in the profession, the search for professional meanings. It allows to check their professional competence; identify the differences between the achieved and the necessary professional experience; the level of development, to determine their own professional needs, opportunities and further guidelines for personal and professional growth. Pedagogical practical training has some functions: training course; educating; educational; diagnostic; adaptive; integrative.

All future teachers face the necessity to make their lessons interesting and cognitive in order on the one hand to maintain students’ motivation in the subject [2], [4], [7], [8], [10], [11], [15], [18] and on the other hand to complete their practical training successfully. Certainly, this type of work and preparation for the lesson need much effort at the initial stages of becoming a foreign language teacher [1], [5], [21]. A modern lesson should always include something new. After all, monotonous actions are unlikely to be able to keep the interest of students of any age. The teacher must constantly introduce new moments into the learning process. One of the latest trends is the use of modern information technologies in teaching English: training computer and mobile games, training videos, electronic textbooks, etc. Such measures can significantly increase the interest of students in the process of working on the assimilation of new information, make the lesson exciting and slightly increase its pace, if necessary. Any interesting lesson helps not only to develop certain skills in the subject but to form various competences, tolerance, emotional intelligence, forms digital skills [1-3], [9] facilitates professional self-determination and promotes adaptation and socialization, allowing life-long-learning [4], [12-17].

The author would like to share some tips for conducting an interesting English lesson based on his own experience of practical training at the Krasnoyarsk secondary school.

Warming-up

The significance of the warming-up part of the lesson should not be underestimated. It may take from three to five minutes but helps to create the positive and friendly atmosphere, involving students into

some positive talk about their family, or weather or interesting things that have happened in their life since the previous lesson.

Gamification elements

Games are fun activities that promote interaction, thinking, learning, and problem-solving strategies. Some games require players to be physically active and / or perform a mental task. Games should be used in English lessons, because they are effective learning tools, offer students a hypothetical environment in which they can explore alternative solutions without the risk of failure. Thought and action are combined into purposeful behavior to achieve the goal. Students extract their own meaning from their experiences, learning from their mistakes, as well as from each other. In addition, students rely on their previous knowledge and use their new knowledge in a particular situation.

Jazz or Grammar Chants

Music is perfect for learning a language. That's why Grammar and Jazz Chants by C. Graham issued by Oxford University Press are a bright, interesting and memorable addition to any English lesson. Jazz Chants are based on 15 typical Survival English situations while Grammar Chants are aimed at forming grammar skill. Words and phrases are laid down to the rhythm and consequently are kept in the long-time memory.

Communicative tasks

Any foreign language teacher should constantly bear in mind that the ultimate goal of any foreign language learning is speaking and communication. So, it is advisable to include communicative situations into the lesson.

Variability of the tasks set

Many teachers sometimes speak 90% of the lesson time thus turning it to a monotonous lecture. That is why the rapid changes of activities will benefit to keeping students interested and involved [20], [22-24].

Flexible lesson plan

This tip comes from the previous one. Definitely having a plan is a key to success especially for young teachers or pedagogical students. But it is a good skill to be able to adapt the plan to the changing conditions for example, if a student has asked a really interesting question about grammar or the text you are working with has touched it and requires discussion.

The use of gadgets

Today's generation of students is completely immersed in phones, social networks and the world of high technologies. By allowing students to use personal gadgets two or three times during the lesson for a certain time, teachers find their advantages in this. There is an understanding of the real needs and interests of students, the learning process becomes more exciting, an individual approach to solving a specific task is demonstrated, and information on the topic is available in a matter of seconds. The most important task of a teacher is to show how and what resources can be used not only for entertainment, but also for learning. Certainly, the teacher carefully selects the list of sites and resources for each of the above items in advance and offers them to his students to use during the lesson [25-35].

Allowing students to conduct their own lessons

2-3 students can prepare the elements of the lesson and each student will be responsible for conducting his part of the lesson: explaining the topic, testing, preparing audio or video material for the task, searching for and conducting new games to process what he passed.

Individual approach and personalization

Individual approach is one of the fundamental in classical and modern pedagogical science. Shalva Amonashvili developed basic principles of this approach. During the English lesson the teacher should try to involve *all* the students into the work taking into account their level of language skills (it is well-implemented in the group work). Personalization is used, for example, while studying the topic "Meals" where each student is given a chance to speak about his likes and dislikes in food and all students compare their preferences. This type of activity also promotes the formation of tolerance.

Creative homework assignments

Creative and interesting homework can be thought up for any grammatical or lexical topic. For example, while studying the topic "Present Perfect" ask students to make 5 sentences of what they have never done in their life, and write down 5 questions for the teacher in the form "Have you ever ...?" These questions can be humorous and bring fun to the lesson. Students are always interested in asking their teacher various questions and this type of activity establishes positive communication between the participants of the educational process.

Teacher's personality

And the last but not the least is the personality of the teacher. He should be really interested in his subject, be eager to share his experience, have some funny interesting stories in his head to relax the students. Then the success is inevitable.

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