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EFFECTIVENESS OF USING TRADITIONAL AND MODERN METHODS IN TEACHING FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Abstract. In recent years, modern method of language teaching is widely used by many teachers in schools, colleges, lyceums, language centres and universities. However, we also cannot set aside the traditional method of language teaching, as, it also has number of advantages, despite disadvantages. In this article we decided to illustrate the advantages and disadvantages of Traditional and Modern methods in language teaching. First, we give definition to both methods and then compare them with each other. At the end we tried to find a way to keep balance between these methods in teaching process and take only advantages of the methods.

Keywords: method, technique, traditional method, modern method, CLT (Communicative language teaching), ELT (English language teaching).

Аннотация. В последние годы многие преподаватели школ, колледжей, лицеев, языковых центров и университетов широко используют современные методы обучения языку. Однако мы также не можем отказаться от традиционного метода обучения языку, так как он имеет ряд преимуществ, несмотря на недостатки. В этой статье мы решили проиллюстрировать преимущества и недостатки традиционных и современных методов преподавания языка. Сначала мы даем определение обоим методам, а затем сравниваем эти два метода друг с другом. В конце мы попытались найти способ сохранить баланс и воспользоваться только преимуществами методов.

Ключевые слова: метод, техника, традиционный метод, современный метод, CLT (Коммуникативное языковое обучение), ELT (преподавание английского языка).

Аңдатпа. Соңғы жылдары, тілдерді оқытудың заманауи әдісі көптеген мектептерде, колледждерде, лицейлерде, тіл оқыту орталықтарында және университеттерде кеңінен қолданылады. Сонымен бірге, біз тіл оқытудың дәстүрлі әдісін де жоққа шығара алмаймыз, өйткені оның кемшіліктеріне қарамастан бірқатар артықшылықтары да

бар. Осы мақалада біз тілді оқытудағы дәстүрлі және заманауи әдістердің артықшылықтары мен кемшіліктерін айқындауды жөн көрдік. Алдымен, біз екі әдіске де анықтама береміз, содан кейін осы екі әдісті бір-бірімен салыстырамыз. Соңында біз тепе-теңдікті сақтай отырып, әдістердің тек артықшылықтарын алуға тырыстық.

Түйін сөздер: әдіс, тәсіл, дәстүрлі әдіс, заманауи әдіс, CLT (коммуникативті тіл оқыту), ELT (ағылшын тілін оқыту).

In this fast moving world things are changing rapidly. With the advent of new technologies work has become much easier than ever before. Technology has made its impact on all fields and education is not an exception. The teaching method has undergone drastic change in this digital world. Today is the whole world teaching foreign languages, especially English has become an essential part of education in all its' branches. Some people learn a foreign language most importantly to be able to communicate with foreign people and other people learn a foreign language above all to see the world from a different point of view, to discover new approaches to life or to find out about other cultures.

In this article we decided to analyze the peculiarities of both traditional and modern methodology of teaching English. It is obvious that as a future teacher, I have to choose the right method to follow because with the help of this method I will teach the learners. For example, at school I was taught by Traditional method, but when I entered the university I was taught by Modern method. And I was curious about which is the best one, Traditional method or Modern method. That's why in this research work we compared these two methods in order to figure out which is more effective and why. We'll provide you with the pros and cons of each method and some essential information concerning the theme.

Nowadays we have great opportunities to teach the foreign language with the help of variety of techniques, methods including information technologies and visual aids, games etc. For that reason we should try to discover some new ideas that can impact for improving the student's knowledge. As a future teacher, I always try to explore a lot of new techniques, ideas and activities lest to encourage and motivate the students to learn the foreign language. The most important role of the teachers is to find out, to make comparison, analyze and evaluate the methods they use in order to entertain the students and to make the learning process as effective as possible. In this article we focused on methods widely used today and analyzed them properly.

First, let us define the word “method”. According to Cambridge Dictionary, “method”- it is a procedure, technique, or way of doing something, basically in accordance with a definite plan. In Webster’s New Third Dictionary – “it is a well staged procedure to teach new language”.

Holloway (2005: 293) claims that “methodology as a means of framework of theories and principles on which methods and procedures are based. Obviously, one of the essential aim of any methodology in foreign language teaching is to increase the foreign language ability of the learner. There are two main types of English language teaching methodology :

- 1) Traditional methods;
- 2) Modern teaching methods.

First of all, let’s define traditional methodology, what kind of characteristic does it have. There are different opinions on traditional and modern teaching methods. As Broughton and et al claim the main feature of traditional method is the “teacher-dominated interaction”. It means that this methodology is teacher-centred and teacher responsible for learning process. It is often believed that if just students are present in the lesson, by listening to their teacher’s explanations or lectures, they can get everything. In traditional methodology, teachers serve as the main source of knowledge while learners serve as passive receivers.

Traditional method mostly concentrates on the knowledge of grammar and isolated items or terms of vocabulary. The priorities are considered to be grammar, grammatical rules and examples concerning the theme, also translating words, sentences from L2 into the mother tongue and vice versa. According to some scholars there are some pros and cons of traditional method.

Xu believes that in traditional classroom “doing a little bit of translation and using students’ mother tongue in class” both economic and useful in foreign language learning process. Also he claims that it is a good way of saving students’ precious time [1]. However, some scholars agree on the lack of speaking and pronunciation practice in classroom. Jim Scrivener highlights that “teacher spends quite amount of class time using the board, writing with chalk and explaining things. In this method we don’t have any liberty and are entitled to strict regulations. We don’t have any digital equipment or devices and knowledge sharing is limited. But now in modern teaching, we are transforming from blackboard to digital classrooms where the sessions will be taken over the projectors and smart devices. In this method students are exposed to technologies and it gives wide scope for learning. It brings new learning style and allows collaboration and interaction among students [2].

In modern methods students remain focused as there is no strict control over them. Similarly teachers can share their study material over soft copies or create blogs for teaching, use microphones for delivering lectures to enhance their teaching method. Now you may think which method is the best? Traditional or Modern? From my perspective I'll go with both traditional and modern teaching method. Both methods are equally good and need to be imparted to the students and ensure that every student have equal opportunities in learning.

In this modern world the need of modern teaching has grown exponentially even though the importance of traditional teaching is compulsory. Since there are more modern invention and technologies have come children were quick enough to grasp anything faster.

Let us now look at the comparison of Traditional and Modern teaching methods

Traditional method	Modern method
Teaching is giving knowledge or skills to students	Teaching is the process of providing guided opportunities for students
Teacher monitors the students	Teacher observes the students in classroom
Teacher is information giver	Teacher is facilitator
Learners usually passive	Learners active during the lesson
Teacher monopolizes discussion (teacher-centered)	Students participates in the discussion (student-centered)
Stresses the “what” of learning, thus capitalizing on the use of memory work, question and answer exercises, etc	Emphasizes the “why” and the “how” of learning, thus encouraging students to do investigatory and exploratory work
Opts for conformity, thus expecting each student to come up with the predetermined learning results	Provides students with certain degree of freedom, giving them chance to develop their creativity and resourcefulness

Uses fixed methodology, confined in the four-wall of the classroom	Uses variety of methods in teaching and explores different avenues for learning
Utilizes conditioning to reward learning	Emphasizes the intrinsic benefits of learning
Students learn grammatical rules and isolated items of vocabulary	Students learn the language by practicing

Table 1- Comparison of Traditional and Modern teaching methods

As you can see, Table 1 indicates the main differences between Traditional and Modern teaching methods. In traditional approach, teacher monitors the activities of each student, tries to identify their problems and gets solution to it. In this method we fully rely on her explanations and lectures and there won't be any collaboration and interaction among students. We give high importance to exams rather than their understandings.

Traditional teaching is concerned with the teacher being the controller of the learning environment. Power and responsibility are held by the teacher and they play the role of instructor and decision maker. They regard students as having 'knowledge holes' that need to be filled with information. In short, the traditional teacher views that it is the teacher that causes learning to occur (Novak, 1998). Learning is chiefly associated within the classroom and is often competitive. The lesson's content and delivery are considered to be most important and students master knowledge through drill and practice (such as rote learning). Content need not be learned in context. (Theroux 2002, Johnson & Johnson 1991). The most common seating arrangement used by the traditionalists is rows.

Traditional methods of teaching that are still being adhered to in the schools:

- Teacher-centric classrooms
- Teachers in the mode of knowledge dispensers rather than facilitators
- Chalk and talk methods
- Lack of collaboration and group learning
- More emphasis on examinations and results rather than understanding of concepts.

The changes in modern teaching methods made necessary by technological, economic, and cultural forces in the early 21st century have

fundamentally altered the very foundation of traditional educational models, as educators try to figure out how to best meet the needs of students in a personalized, meaningful and timely way[3].

Certainly, students today are no longer the target audience that the traditional educational system was designed to teach. Fifty to hundred years ago everyone in a class would be working at about the same level. A teacher could move the top class along at a faster pace and class management was easier. All students focused on the same lesson, all making comparable progress.

Modern methods in use in education:

- Technology-driven classrooms
- Continuous comprehensive evaluation
- Cross-curricular connections
- Emphasis on understanding of concepts
- Linking curriculum with life
- Emphasis on skill building, life skills and values
- Smart interactive boards
- Collaborative learning
- Flipped classroom

The modern way of teaching is more activity based, using questioning, explaining, demonstration and collaboration techniques.

One modern method is spaced learning, this is when students are encouraged to quickly switch through activities, for example; providing ten minutes of knowledge on a subject with presentation and then having five minutes of sport. The aim of spaced learning is to achieve better grades, and it works! It is claimed that this is more effective than teaching students by traditional methods for four hours, thus helping the brain cells to create connections that they need to remember knowledge. It also helps people relax. Sonia Jackson who wrote an interesting blog post about modern teaching methods for Getting Smart states:

The traditional “chalk and talk” method of teaching that’s persisted for hundreds of years is now acquiring inferior results when compared with the more modern and revolutionary teaching methods that are available for use in schools today. Greater student interaction is encouraged, the boundaries of authority are being broken down, and a focus on enjoyment over grades is emphasised.

Another widely used approach in modern way of teaching is communicative language teaching. According to CLT, the goal of language education is the ability to communicate in the target language [4]. This is in contrast to views in which grammatical competence was commonly given top priority. In this type of modern teaching method the conductor of a lesson uses

big range of multimedia. It has a great advantage: students become active, lesson becomes entertaining and interesting. However, in most cases conductors more focuses on multimedia and less focuses on academic site of the lesson, the teaching point is not given top priority. So, how to keep balance between traditional and modern teaching method? Me, as a future teacher decided to take only advantages of these two dominant methods because both methods has pros and cons. For example, traditional techniques uses repetition and memorisation of information to educate students, it means that they are not developing their critical thinking, problem solving and decision-making skills. On the other hand,we also can see a lot of people, who were taught with traditional methods but still having fluent English. Modern teaching methods encourage students to collaborate and therefore be more productive. Saying that, traditional and modern teaching methods are both effective and useful in today's education. Sarah Wright, who blogs for TES, explains, "As with most things, it's all about balance". In conclusion, we want to say that there is no best or worst method of teaching foreign language.We need to understand when a traditional method works best and when it's right to try new and innovative approaches.

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