
PARALLEL READING AS A LANGUAGE TEACHING METHOD

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Abstract. In recent years parallel reading become a popular in English and Uzbek languages, so our readers sometimes ask, so whether it is effective, as they say the compilers of books with texts in two languages. In this article we will discuss the benefits and disadvantages of this method of language learning, as well as give advice on how to use the parallel method of reading in English as productively as possible.

Keywords: parallel reading, develop a sense of language, grammar study, activation of visual memory, a comparison, problem of the texts.

Parallel reading is reading the same text in two languages: native and studied. As a rule, an adapted text is taken as a basis, for example, in English, and a literal or literary translation into Russian is written next to it. However, there is another version of parallel reading, it was used by the polyglot Heinrich Schliemann. So, he first read the text in his native language, and then the unadapted text in the studied one. Today, people also use this method: they take a book in the original and its translation and learn the language in this way.

Benefits of Parallel Reading:

- development of a sense of language.

The main advantage of parallel reading is the development of a sense of language and linguistic conjecture. That is, by reading and comparing two texts in different languages, you gradually begin to better understand the structure of an English sentence, the principles of its construction, the features of using certain parts of speech, etc.

- “full immersion” in English.

The texts of the books in the original will allow you to create a language environment for learning English. You will be able to “immerse yourself” in the language being studied in its natural form while reading.

- learning English in an extensive way.

Intensive ways of learning English, such as doing exercises, learning new words, or talking to a teacher, sometimes you want to replace it with something that requires less effort. The Parallel Reading method allows you to “learn without studying”, that is, in fact, you are reading a book that interests you, and at the same time this activity benefits your English.

- study without grammar.

Adherents of the method of parallel reading in English argue that this is a natural way of learning a language, similar to the principle by which children learn their native language. From the very first day, the kid is immersed in the language environment, and not just studying grammar. Thus, he learns to speak, mechanically repeating words and phrases after those around him, and only later goes directly to the study of grammatical rules. You are also invited to read the book without understanding the tenses of English and other intricacies of the language. According to linguists, this method is not suitable for everyone, but some people benefit from reading parallel texts in English.

- less distraction - more fun

When reading an ordinary book in English, you will resort to the help of a dictionary and get distracted from reading whenever you encounter an unfamiliar word and cannot understand its meaning from the context. With parallel reading, this need does not arise: you have a complete translation of the text in front of your eyes, so you will not be distracted by working with a dictionary.

- use of visual memory.

While reading, you use visual memory, which means that words and phrases that are often found in the text will be remembered well. If you are a visual person who finds it easier to perceive visual information, you may like this method of reading in English.

- remembering words in context.

While reading the book, you will memorize frequently repeated words, as well as the principles of their use in speech. Moreover, you will learn new vocabulary, making almost no effort. And if, while reading, you also write out some words and memorize them, you will get even more benefit from parallel reading in English.

- an interesting technique for lovers of reading.

If you are familiar with the state "I'll finish reading you, the last chapter, and it doesn't matter that it's 3 o'clock in the morning," then you will appreciate such a technique for learning English as reading parallel texts. And this activity will especially appeal to those who do not yet know English very well, but are eager to read any work by English-speaking authors in the original. In addition, it will be interesting for you to see how the translation differs from the original and how certain emotions are expressed in the native and studied language.

- difficult sections can be skipped.

With parallel reading, you will not lose the thread of reasoning, even if you stumble upon a difficult passage in English. You will be able to read the translation and understand the text, or simply skip the misunderstood passage.

Disadvantages of parallel reading:

It's a labor-intensive job that isn't for everyone.

Since parallel reading of English texts is an extensive way of learning a language, it requires more time than intensive methods. You will have to read a lot and, moreover, every day. In addition, this technique will not work for everyone: you will have to force yourself to read a lot of unfamiliar words, and this is a rather tedious task.

It's hard to find the right book.

Although parallel reading is popular, it will take a long time to find interesting books, because compiling really high-quality material for parallel reading is a long and difficult task.

- big waste of time.

With parallel reading, you actually read the text 2 times: in your native language and in the studied one. It turns out that you spend a lot of time reading, and the effectiveness of this method of learning English remains in question.

- misprints in the text.

Often the quality of parallel texts leaves much to be desired, and typos and blunders, according to the "law of meanness," are remembered better than correctly written words. Therefore, carefully select the literature for reading.

- Problems with matching texts.

If you are learning English quite recently, have not yet had time to deal with grammar, then it will be quite difficult for you to compare Russian and English texts. It must be understood that sentences will not be translated literally, and sometimes their structure will change in a completely radical way. And if you don't understand why the sentence is built the way it is, and not otherwise, as the parts of speech are related, the benefit of reading is greatly reduced.

- constant switching from one language to another.

It is not easy for everyone to adjust to reading in their native language, then in the studied one. You may have a "linguistic mess" in your head, and the storyline of the work will be lost.

- inconvenience in using the method.

You can read two texts on paper only at home, and even then it is very inconvenient. Computer programs and applications for gadgets are a good alternative, but they also have nuances. So, such programs, as a rule, do not provide a wide selection of works, and texts often contain errors.

- obsolete words and expressions

Shakespeare and Dickens are not a very good choice for those who decide to take up parallel reading. There are many obsolete words in the texts of their works that you will never need in life. Therefore, if you decide to read a work in the original, give preference to more modern authors, although such texts are difficult to find.

- exclusively for lovers of reading

If you don't know what a "book hangover" is and have never sacrificed sleep for "just 20 more pages of this wonderful chapter," chances are you won't like this method. Everything is logical: reading should be used only by those who love to read. If that doesn't work for you, try learning English from movies and TV shows, podcasts, or audiobooks.

How to Use the Parallel Reading Method Effectively

We decided to try whether the method of parallel reading of texts in English is right for you? In that case, we want to give you some tips on how to make this activity as useful as possible for your English.

- learning the basics first, then reading

For those who have just started learning English, there is no point in reading parallel texts. You will not yet be able to compare grammatical constructions and parts of speech in different languages. Therefore, wait until at least the Elementary level, master the basics of grammar, and only then start reading.

- it's too late after Intermediate

Once you have reached the Intermediate level, move on to reading books entirely in English. It can be both adapted literature and books in the original. And to make it easy and pleasant for you to read the text, we have compiled for you a detailed table of works of art recommended for reading at different levels of knowledge. Fully English text is much more useful than parallel reading, so when you reach an intermediate level, put the parallel texts aside.

- learn the rules of reading

Knowledge of reading rules is a prerequisite for using the method of parallel texts. Otherwise, your classes will do more harm than good.

- own interests - first of all

Always choose the text that you would be happy to read or re-read in Uzbek. If you're interested in the plot, there's a good chance you'll make it to the end of the book and not give up after the first 10 pages.

- develop other skills

With parallel reading, you develop only one skill - reading itself, while listening, speaking and writing remain in their original form. However, if you do not work with the rest of the skills, then you will not feel progress in English. Do not forget to listen to audio materials, write short essays and be sure to find yourself an interlocutor, because you are learning English to speak it, and not just read texts.

- listen to the audio recording of the text

Do you want to get used to the sound of English speech and learn to understand it by ear? Then we advise you to find an audio recording for the English text and listen to each phrase you read. You can also use special programs with Text-To-Speech technology, such as neospeech.com. You can enter any phrase in the box, and the program will voice it in the voice of a native speaker with the correct pronunciation and intonation.

- Read the phrase in Uzbek and match it with the sentence in English.

In principle, you can do the opposite: read in English, and then in Uzbek, but if you want to understand the structure of the sentence, then the option we have proposed will be more convenient. So, you will read a phrase in Uzbek and will automatically match English words with Uzbek, understand the structure of the sentence, this will help you develop a sense of language and linguistic guess.

- Read a lot and often

Parallel reading will only be beneficial if you read long and often, preferably daily. Therefore, if you like this method of learning English, give it at least 25-30 minutes a day, otherwise your efforts will be a waste of time.

- Choose convenient resources

Of course, we cannot fail to mention in this article useful sites where you will find texts for parallel reading. We would like to recommend you 2 good resources:

• Aglona reader. The program for reading parallel text, as well as the application, can be downloaded for free. This is an interesting development that highlights relevant passages in parallel texts. In addition, the interface is very user-friendly and the program is easy to use. The only negative is the narrow selection of books, but if you have never tried to read such texts, we recommend that you try this particular resource, you will like it for its simplicity and ease of use.

• Studyenglishwords.com. Also a free site where you can read parallel texts in English, save words from them in your own electronic dictionary and learn in your free time. The choice of books is quite large, so you can easily find an interesting text for yourself.

We think that now you will be able to evaluate for yourself the advantages and disadvantages of the parallel reading method, and our tips will help you make this lesson really useful.

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