



APPROACHES AND METHODS TO TEACHING EFL IN LIFELONG LEARNING

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Annotation.

This article provides information about the modern and useful methodologies for teaching foreign language in lifelong learning. These methods are natural, audio-lingual method (ALM), immersion, and Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) which serve to enhance the efficiency of learning process. The term “lifelong learning” refers mostly learning language independently or with tutors for personal or professional purposes and it is the most quintessential quality in human’s life, because it demands from learner all the time acquiring knowledge and working on him/herself unstoppably.

Key words:

Up-to-date approaches: natural, audio-lingual, immersion, CALL, and lifelong learning

Introduction.

In today’s technologically advanced era, learning and teaching a foreign language became a crucial and widespread topic owing to its importance in educational, business, economic and financial life. Each learner wants to acquire target language in an easy and fun way. For providing this opportunity, teachers should know useful and effective strategies for their students according to their age, personality and type of leaning such as: visual, kinesthetic, auditory and interpersonal. Then, other approaches are taken into consideration. Methods should be both effective and interesting for the learner, as they keep the learner studying ceaselessly and lead to the best results.

Natural approach (Direct method).

In this method, students are not allowed to use their native language and they need to speak only in their target language. This approach is opposite to grammar-translation method and it encourages students even to think and feel in the target language by the real atmosphere. In terms of acquisition of grammar, students learn it automatically with the help of contexts and frequent usage of the language. The founder of this method, Tracy Terrell outlined that this way of leaning is similar to acquisition of mother language and everything goes quite subconsciously. In addition, Terrell suggested three activities that are mostly proper to this approach, such as learning a new subject in the target language, personalizing language activity (it refers to learners favorite activities like, singing music, playing games in the second language), and problem-solving activity.

Audio-lingual method.

This method focuses on especially listening and speaking by utilizing a wide range of audio and video materials. Moreover, varied dialogues, which learners listen, repeat, and memorize, are the best part of this approach. ALM, like the direct method, is also an oral approach. However, it is very different in that rather than emphasizing vocabulary acquisition through exposure to its use in situations, the ALM drills students in the use of grammatical sentence patterns (Larsen-Freeman, 2000). It is admitted that this approach boosts learners' pronunciation skill and vocabulary learning also becomes much fun by listening and repeating them frequently. Popular activity of ALM is tongue-twister to build articulation and strength.

Immersion approach.

This up-to-date approach has altered the way of teaching a foreign language. It demands from learner to fully surround him/herself with the target language and in this method, student not only learn the language system: vocabulary and grammar, but also its culture, traditions, social, political life, history, and generally everything that in his/her mother language has. This approach is considered the most interesting and fruitful for the learner, as it enhances the awareness and knowledge of a student. The best activities for this method are audio and video trip to the country, food representation, bringing clothes, historical flashback. These all activities help students having better notion and awareness. Most importantly, they give real feelings about the language.

Computer Assisted Language Learning.

In other words, online learning or distant learning can be said. We are living in a technologically revolutionized era and it's impossible not to highlight the new technologies in teaching process. There an extensive diversity of programs and online-lessons exist for language learners. One of them is zoom and it is becoming widespread all over the world because of its comfortable opportunities for the learners/teachers. It is like a video lessons and teacher interact with his/her students easily and can work weather individually or in a group. All materials can be shared and discussed at the same time. Furthermore, it is a best chance to work with native teachers and communicate with native speakers.

Conclusion.

Taking everything into consideration, the methods which are highlighted above are the most handy and productive for teaching foreign language in the system of lifelong learning. Utilizing them during the classes improves the quality of the lesson and increases the students' potential of acquiring the second language.

References:

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