

EFFECTIVE METHODS OF LEARNING ENGLISH

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Аннотация: статья посвящена рассмотрению эффективных способов изучения иностранного языка, в частности, английского. Здесь представлены авторские методики как русских, так и зарубежных представителей.

Ключевые слова: method, learning, language, English.

By the end of the twentieth century, the status of a language of world significance was finally consolidated for English. In most schools in the world, its study became mandatory, and the teaching methodology began to develop by leaps and bounds. Not everyone could afford to attend courses, which provoked the appearance of the first methodology for independent study of the English language. Subsequently, many authors attempted to create an effective English language learning program on their own, but we will focus on the 8 most popular.

Schechter's Method

In this method of learning English, the basis is not the classical model “from theory to practice”, but the reverse one, more natural system of perception. It is very similar to how we learn our own language. The author gives an example of how young children learn to talk – because no one explains to them the rules for constructing sentences, cases and parts of speech. In the same way, Igor Yuryevich Schechter suggests studying English.

The essence of the modern methodology of learning the English language is that from the first lesson the students are given a certain task, for example, to learn about the profession of the interlocutor. Further, all students play the so-called "etudes", where they try on various roles and try to solve the problem. Due to the fact that communication occurs between people with approximately the same level of language proficiency, the fear of using foreign speech, which occurs when communicating between a teacher and a student, disappears.

This English language technique consists of three stages: at the first, lexical units, words and expressions are given, and only then, at the second and third, the correction of the use of grammar and syntactic structures occurs. The system has repeatedly proved its effectiveness and is currently one of the most successful from the point of view of educational psychologists [4].

Pimsler's Method

Dr. Paul Pimsler worked out a special system of thirty-minute lessons, designed not only for the perception of information, but also for its reproduction. Each lesson is voiced by two people: our compatriot and native English speaker. Thanks to this, as well as a special technology of memorization, any student learns up to hundreds of English words and expressions for each lesson. The essence of the lesson is the sequential execution of tasks that are spoken out by the speakers. The undoubted advantages of the technique include its mobility - you can perform audio tasks anywhere: standing in a traffic jam, heading to work, in the subway on the way to a date or lying in bed before going to bed. The disadvantage will be the lack of a qualitative check of pronunciation and adoption of knowledge.

Dragunkin's Method

A peculiarity of the system of Alexander Nikolaevich Dragunkin is the orientation to the native Russian language when you are studying any foreign language. Very boldly calling English simple, the author claims that its roots go back to Old Russian, especially the system of grammatical tenses. Students of the Dragunkin's course learn new words transcribed in Russian letters, and grammatical constructions are not divided into 12 tenses known to us from school, but into the past, present, future and their variations [1].

Alexander Nikolaevich has his own chain of schools where three types of courses can be mastered: basic, short and conversational. For self-study, a book entitled "Small Leap into English" is offered, which sets out the linguist's innovative approach to language learning. Using its system, you can easily deal with the use of English verbs, remember the rules for using articles and easily master the basic principles of constructing sentences. However, Dragunkin's

methodology has many negative reviews criticizing the pronunciation and lack of theoretical knowledge.

Petrov's Method

Dmitry Petrov states that you can learn English in 16 hours. Though, the author further clarifies that this is true if to speak not about mastery of the language at the level of the native of Great Britain, but about basic knowledge. His lessons are enough to survive in the conditions of getting into the English-speaking environment, explain your needs and understand the answer.

The English language technique “Polyglot” of Petrov has proved its effectiveness on the air of the “Culture” TV channel (since 2010 - “Russia K”). The basis of the technique is artificial immersion in the language environment [2]. From the first lesson, participants in the show are required to communicate in a foreign language. For this, the author gives the necessary lexical minimum on a given topic, as well as models of speech structures. Most of the lesson is allotted to the multifold repetition of the given structures, their "refining" and, thus, there is a strong memorization.

Frank's Method

Ilya Frank is the author of an original method of learning English, based on reading specially adapted literature. Small pieces of a text are shown with consecutive translation in brackets. So one big sentence is divided into separate phrases, and as soon as the reader ends reading a phrase, a translation is immediately presented in brackets. Thus, it's possible to compare the original text and the translation and make up meaning of the words you don't know earlier. After reading all the fragment by piecemeal with the translation, the same text follows but without a “crutch” – a Russian doubling.

Using Frank's method, the student learns the meaning of new lexical units subconsciously, as well as ready-made patterns of use and construction of phrases. The main disadvantage of such method is the accumulation of only passive knowledge – adapted texts do not carry exercises for applying the acquired knowledge. Use the methods of learning English according to Ilya Frank is

advisable in case of learning as an additional means of increasing the vocabulary [3].

Umin's Method

Having published the book “Foreign Language is Easy and with Pleasure”, Evgeny Aleksandrovich Umin (Umryukhin) on 50 pages he outlined the method of motor and auditory engrams of speaking and perceiving phrases in English automatically. According to Umin, engrams are “traces of memory” which help our brain to absorb information more easily. Relying, like Schechter, on the example of teaching speech of young children, as well as on his studies of the mechanisms of the human brain during training, Umin developed a system of daily activities. According to him, training just 15-20 minutes a day, it's possible to achieve a great success in a year. If to increase the duration of classes to 1-1.5 hours, then in a year you can start to speak English at the same level as the native speaker [3].

Zamyatkin's Method

Her book “You Can't be Taught a Foreign Language” has become a revelation for many people. Here Nicholas Zamyatkin reveals the reasons for the unsuccessful teaching of English at school, and also describes the method of "matrix tai-chi" that helps actually learn a foreign language. His methods of learning English are based on a gradual immersion in the language environment and the formation of an artificial "information hunger" – the brain's need in new information.

According to the method, at first listening to dialogues comes, then reading books, and then watching English-language films. Each stage is worked out carefully, listening to one dialogue takes 3-5 days to parse each phoneme and understand each word. By connecting with this meditation technique, it turns out to achieve amazing results. However, the author honestly warns that “there is no miracle” – it takes a lot of time and a significant level of self-discipline to master the language [3].

Rosetta Stone's Method

The last technique on our list will appeal to those who spend most of their time at the computer. A specially developed computer program gradually immerses the user in a foreign language environment, just as children immerse themselves in the adult world. The stages are developed with a tendency to gradual complication, the student progresses from simple to complex. First, simple words are suggested for memorization, then more complicated lexemes are given, then speech constructions are introduced, and then syntax and grammar are introduced [3].

Conclusion

The above methods for learning English can really help to learn English on your own, but only to a certain level. Do not forget that for effective use you need to be able to not only understand the text and speech by ear, but also to master conversational skills. And it is almost impossible to determine off one's own bat how correctly these or those words are pronounced. It follows from this that the effective study of English requires at least an interlocutor. But it's best if this person can not only talk, but also correctly explain the incomprehensible moments of the speech and can act as a mentor. You can practice your language even with the help of web-service as Skype. On the other hand, you can do this by finding any private teacher, or in any courses.

In individual lessons, difficulties with grammar will be successfully resolved. Group lessons in a conversation club and webinars will help to develop communication skills in English. The online simulator will help you to kill your time usefully between classes and repeat the material you have learned. New vocabulary can be gleaned from articles on a wide variety of topics, and you can prepare for communication at work or a new place of study at specialized courses.

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