

# **ELECTRONIC TEXTBOOK IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE TRAINING PROCESS**

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**Abstract.** New environments for teaching and learning have emerged, such as blended learning and e-learning. In the article the problem of modern electronic textbook in the foreign language training process of students at a technical university is disclosed. The electronic textbooks are based on the constructivist theory of learning and communicative language teaching methodology, providing accessibility of task in the process of foreign language learning. The authors come to the conclusion that electronic textbooks using is an important part of a set of approaches that provide the most appropriate ways of supporting students' engagement and achievement. English language learning can be enhanced by the use of electronic textbooks for motivated group participation.

**Keywords:** blended learning, foreign language training, electronic textbook, professional communicative competence.

Foreign language training of technical students plays an essential role, since future specialists need to know professional vocabulary, be able to work with foreign professional literature and Internet sources in their specialty, conduct a discussion in a foreign language, make presentations and reports on professional topics [8]. So, one of the key goals of foreign language education is the development of professional communicative competence.

To master professional communicative competence, it is necessary to develop educational and methodological support that meets current trends and requirements for training in the professional field [2]. Educational and methodological as well as information support of the educational process includes teaching aids and information resources for students' educational activities [2].

The textbook in teaching foreign language is the main means of learning. It is a key element in the modern methodology of teaching foreign languages. The textbook helps to involve students in educational, cognitive, scientific and future professional activities [8].

At the present stage of education development, teachers are faced with the task of creating electronic textbooks that meet the latest requirements of the Federal State Educational Standard of Higher Education [9].

Many scientists investigate the potential of electronic textbooks (e-textbooks) that have to augment the learning and education: Sally Maynard, Emily Cheyne [4], Monica Landoni, Paloma Díaz [3], Norshuhada Shiratuddin, Monica Landoni, Forbes Gibb, Shahizan Hassan [7].

Currently, there is an international change in education that includes the development of new learning programs, including electronic textbooks.

These changes in the educational situation connected with COVID-19 pandemic require changing the way we learn. Thus, new environments for teaching and learning have emerged, such as blended learning and e-learning. It has increased inequalities and exacerbated an existing education crisis.

Today, despite the Omicron variant, universities are open in Sevastopol, supported by health and safety protocols. That is why Sevastopol State University (SevSU) and Black Sea Higher Naval School named after P.S. Nakhimov (BSHNS) are improving learning through technology, as evidenced by the rapid adoption of technology-assisted teaching methods and blended learning models. “Blended learning (also known as hybrid learning) is a method of teaching that integrates technology and digital media with traditional instructor-led classroom activities, giving students more flexibility to customize their learning experiences” [6]. Thus, we are witnesses to the

transition from the traditional approaches to teaching and learning to a completely new range of ways of learning. The most common technology used in blended learning has been electronic textbooks. They are being used to enhance both distance and face-to-face language learning within the various levels of formal education.

Distance learning offers flexibility. It fosters learner autonomy and can cater for multiple intelligences [6]. This is particularly true when dealing with learner autonomy. However, there are some disadvantages of electronic textbooks application. The most important one is a major abandonment of the students. Carrying out a progressive and successful learning process requires exercising some of conditions. The students' aim orientation, their motivation and level of awareness of responsibility are key factors. Moreover, the importance of quality digital materials and appropriate methodologies to accomplish learning, as well as a proper and efficient tutoring of students, are key elements.

All our electronic textbooks are based on a carefully planned methodology and a well-grounded theoretical basis for the explanation of lexis and grammatical issues. They promote computer literacy, intercultural communicative competence, as well as multidisciplinary learning and positive attitudes towards other ways of life. "The speech (communicative) value of the material contributes to the formation of readiness for communication that involves the use of communicatively valuable speech material" [5].

The concept of quality in language education, as in area of human activity, is increasingly common yet is complicated in its practical meaning. "One can assume that an understanding of the quality of learning opportunity is central to the process of learning" [1]. Quality is essential for those understanding the

task of designing and implementing a curriculum, an issue of professional achievement. That's why electronic textbooks are based on the constructivist theory of learning and communicative language teaching methodology, providing accessibility of task in the process of foreign language learning [2].

The difficulties caused by problems emerged in the process of working with an electronic textbook are:

- some students without reliable internet access and/or technology struggle to participate in digital learning;
- students retain only 25-50% material when learning with electronic textbooks;
- the effectiveness of online learning varies amongst age groups.

During the assignment, it was noticed that students were reluctant to engage in communication. There are many mistakes made in the speech of students. Many students cannot express their thoughts in English.

Specialized (technical) foreign (English) language is aimed at studying specialized technical terminology. The main task of teaching specialized English to students in technical profile educational institutions of higher education is to train specialists with foreign-language competencies in the professional field.

Thus, electronic textbooks using is an important part of a set of approaches that provide the most appropriate ways of supporting students' engagement and achievement. English language learning can be enhanced by the use of electronic textbooks for motivated group participation.

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