

METHODS OF USING MODERN FORMS IN TEACHING ENGLISH TO HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS

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Abstract: This article examines the methods of using modern forms in teaching English to higher education students. In the context of globalization and rapid technological development, English language teaching in universities requires innovative, student-centered, and practice-oriented approaches. The study analyzes the pedagogical potential of blended learning, interactive methods, project-based learning, multimedia tools, digital platforms, and collaborative activities in the development of students' language competence. Special attention is given to the role of these modern forms in improving communication skills, independent thinking, creativity, and professional language use. The article argues that the effective integration of modern educational forms into English language instruction significantly increases the quality of learning and contributes to the preparation of competitive specialists for the modern labor market.

Keywords: English language teaching, higher education, modern teaching forms, blended learning, interactive methods, digital technologies, communicative competence, student-centered approach

The teaching of English in higher education has become one of the most important issues in modern pedagogy. English is no longer studied only as a foreign language subject; it has become a means of international communication, academic exchange, scientific research, and professional development. For this reason, universities are expected to prepare students who can use English effectively in real-life and professional contexts. This demand requires the modernization of teaching methods and forms.

Traditional methods of language teaching often focus on grammar rules, memorization, and teacher-centered instruction. Although these approaches may provide a certain theoretical foundation, they are not always sufficient for developing communicative competence. Today's students need to be able to speak, listen, read, and write in English in practical and meaningful situations. Therefore, the use of modern forms of teaching has become a necessary condition for improving the quality of English language education in higher institutions.

Modern teaching forms are closely connected with interactivity, digitalization, flexibility, and student engagement. They transform the learner from a passive receiver of information into an active participant in the educational process. As a result, students become more motivated, responsible, and independent in their learning.

Main Part

Modern forms of teaching English are based on the idea that language is best learned through communication, cooperation, and meaningful activity. These forms create opportunities for students to apply their knowledge in authentic situations and to develop both linguistic and cognitive skills.

One of the most effective modern forms is blended learning. This approach combines face-to-face classroom instruction with online learning activities. In blended learning, students can study grammar, vocabulary, listening exercises, and reading materials both in the classroom and through digital platforms. This form allows learners to review content at their own pace,



complete tasks independently, and use additional resources outside the classroom. It also gives teachers the opportunity to organize instruction more flexibly and efficiently.

Another important modern form is the use of interactive teaching methods. English lessons become more productive when students are involved in discussions, debates, brainstorming, pair work, and group work. These methods encourage students to express their ideas, ask questions, respond to others, and defend their opinions in English. Such activities are especially useful for improving speaking and listening skills. Interactive learning also creates a positive classroom atmosphere where students feel more confident and motivated to participate.

Role-play and simulation activities are also widely used in modern English teaching. These forms help students practice language in realistic social and professional situations. For example, students may act as a teacher and student, a customer and seller, a doctor and patient, or participants in a job interview. Through such activities, they learn not only vocabulary and grammar but also the communicative strategies necessary for effective interaction. Role-play develops fluency, spontaneity, and confidence in speaking.

Project-based learning is another powerful form of modern English instruction. In this approach, students work individually or in groups on a topic over a period of time, conduct research, gather information, analyze data, and present the final result in English. For instance, students can prepare projects on environmental protection, digital education, youth culture, or professional communication in their field. Project-based learning strengthens language skills together with critical thinking, creativity, teamwork, and presentation abilities. It also encourages students to use English as a practical tool for learning and communication rather than as an isolated academic subject.

The integration of multimedia tools has also significantly changed the teaching of English in higher education. Audio recordings, video materials, podcasts, presentations, animations, and visual illustrations make lessons more dynamic and understandable. Multimedia provides students with authentic language input and helps them improve pronunciation, listening comprehension, and vocabulary. It also supports different learning styles, since some students learn more effectively through visual or auditory materials. In language teaching, multimedia helps create a rich educational environment that brings real-life English closer to the learner.

Digital platforms and online resources play a major role in contemporary English teaching. Online dictionaries, grammar applications, virtual classrooms, learning management systems, educational websites, and mobile applications give students more access to language practice. They can complete quizzes, submit assignments, watch instructional videos, participate in forums, and communicate with classmates or teachers online. These technologies support continuous learning beyond the classroom and encourage learner autonomy. In addition, digital resources make it easier to individualize instruction according to students' needs, interests, and proficiency levels.

Collaborative learning is also considered an essential component of modern English language education. When students work together in pairs or groups, they learn to negotiate meaning, solve problems, and support one another in the learning process. This form increases social interaction and helps students practice communication naturally. Collaborative learning also reduces anxiety, especially for those students who are less confident in speaking English in front of the whole class. In higher education, where students are expected to become independent and socially active professionals, such cooperation is highly valuable.

A student-centered approach is one of the key principles underlying all modern forms of teaching. In this approach, the needs, interests, abilities, and future professional goals of students are taken into account. The teacher does not simply transmit knowledge but creates conditions for active learning and guides students in their development. Tasks can be adapted according to



students' language levels, and the content of lessons can be connected with their academic specialization. For example, engineering students may work with technical texts and terminology, while agriculture students may focus on environmental vocabulary or international agricultural communication. This makes English learning more relevant and meaningful.

Discussion

The use of modern forms in teaching English to higher education students has both pedagogical and practical significance. First, these forms increase students' motivation and engagement. When learners actively participate in discussions, projects, online activities, and practical tasks, they see the real value of language learning. Second, modern forms improve not only language proficiency but also higher-order thinking skills such as analysis, evaluation, problem-solving, and decision-making. This is especially important in higher education, where students are being prepared for complex professional and academic tasks.

At the same time, the implementation of modern forms may face certain challenges. Not all educational institutions have sufficient technical resources or stable internet access. Some teachers may need additional training in digital pedagogy and innovative teaching methods. Students also differ in their digital literacy, learning habits, and readiness for independent work. Therefore, the successful use of modern forms requires methodological planning, institutional support, and continuous professional development of teachers.

It is also important to note that modern forms should not completely replace traditional instruction. Instead, they should complement and enrich it. A balanced combination of classical teaching foundations and innovative educational methods can provide the most effective results. The main objective is not to use technology or interactivity for their own sake, but to apply them meaningfully in order to achieve clear educational goals.

In conclusion, the use of modern forms in teaching English to higher education students is an essential condition for improving the quality of language education. Blended learning, interactive methods, project-based instruction, multimedia tools, digital platforms, collaborative learning, and student-centered teaching all contribute to the development of communicative competence and independent learning skills. These forms make the educational process more flexible, practical, engaging, and professionally relevant.

Modern English teaching should be oriented toward the real communicative needs of students and the demands of the contemporary world. It should help learners become confident users of English in academic, social, and professional contexts. Therefore, higher education institutions should continue to expand the use of modern teaching forms, improve methodological support, and create innovative learning environments that prepare students for success in a globalized society.

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