

N. Ivanysko, Student
O. Syvak, PhD in Ec., Lecturer, research/language advisor
Zhytomyr State Technological University

IMPROVEMENT OF STUDENTS' INDEPENDENT WORK IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES

The aim of this study is to investigate students' independent work in foreign language classes as well as to find out the ways how to improve it.

Nowadays, the development of Ukraine lies in the expansion of international relations and integration into the European community. The dynamics of social processes determine new strategic directions of the educational process reformation in order to enable the higher educational institutions to train competitive professionals.

Independent work is one of the available and proven ways of increasing the effectiveness of the lesson, activation of cognitive skills of students. It plays a significant role as the student truly acquires knowledge only in the process of improving independent learning activities.

The role, place and tasks of independent work in the learning process was grounded by K.G. Chiknaverova (Chiknaverova, 2016), Y.A. Komensky (Komensky, 1982), E.A. Krylova (Krylova, 2015). Scientists tried to show the increase of the degree of activity and independence of students in learning process and identify the ways of development and techniques of organization of students' independent work.

The analysis of studies devoted to the problem of organization of independent students' work has shown that independent work is such a work, which is performed without direct participation of a teacher, but according to his instructions; when the students consciously seek to achieve the goal, using their efforts and expressing in some form the result of their mental or physical actions.

Its implementation requires a high level of awareness, reflexivity, self-discipline and personal responsibility; it should give satisfaction to a student as a process of self-improvement and self-knowledge.

There are some difficulties for students to be independent learners. They are as follows: lack of confidence, lack of learning strategies and lack of connection between student interests and university content.

Students may have had negative learning experiences that have created an image of themselves as poor or incapable learners. So, firstly, teacher should be aware of how to build self-confidence in students, particularly when it comes to teaching speaking skills. Students may also be stuck with a limited set of learning strategies that do not work for them in a variety of situations. Thus, secondly, teacher should properly select and focus topic and information needs of each group of students, identify learning resources as well as determine the effectiveness of the whole process in order to choose effective learning strategies. And the last but not the least important is connection between students' interests and university

content. Students are not motivated to learn about topics that have no personal connection or resonance for them.

The most pressing issue at the moment is that students study in groups with different levels of foreign language proficiency. Taking into account the number of hours to study a foreign language at the university as well as the number of students in the group it is difficult to raise the lowest level without lowering the highest. In this situation the independent work of students with lower level is vital to succeed.

In order to make students independent learners teacher should give them projects and tasks that require to find information for themselves and demonstrate what they have learned in a way that is meaningful.

Students should study English for 30 minutes every day instead of 2 hours once a week. During this time they won't be tired and their brain will be filled with information. After some time it will be their habit. They should speak English with friends, write new words and stick them in a prominent place, it will help them to learn new words more quickly. Last but not the least, English films are very good backbone in studying English.

For this purposes students should attend special sites, for example, Woodward English (Woodward English, 2018), Loyal Books (Loyal Books, 2018), Jamie Oliver (Jamie Oliver, 2018), Speechyard: Learn English online (Speechyard.com, 2018), Leengoo (En.leengoo.com, 2018), BBC Learning English (BBC Learning English, 2018), Exam English (Exam English Ltd, 2018), engVid (engVid, 2018), English for everyone (Englishforeveryone.org, 2018).

REFERENCES

1. BBC Learning English. (2018). BBC Learning English - BBC Learning English home page. [online] Available at: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/> [Accessed 17 Feb. 2018].
2. Chiknaverova K.G. *Koncepciya i metodika razvitiya inoyazychnoi kompetencii studentov vuza na osnove aktivizacii ich samostoyztnosti* [The concept and methodology of students' foreign competencies development on the basis of their independence activation] : dis. ... of Doct. in Pedagogy : 13.00.02 : defense of the thesis 22.03.16 / Chiknaverova K.G. – N. Novgorod, 2016. – 355 p. [in Russian].
3. En.leengoo.com. (2018). *Онлайн изучение английского, испанского, немецкого, итальянского и французского языков!*. [online] Available at: <http://en.leengoo.com> [Accessed 17 Feb. 2018].
4. Englishforeveryone.org. (2018). English Worksheets. [online] Available at: <http://www.englishforeveryone.org/> [Accessed 17 Feb. 2018].
5. engVid. (2018). *engVid · Learn English for Free*. [online] Available at: <https://www.englishvid.com/> [Accessed 17 Feb. 2018].
6. Exam English Ltd, a. (2018). Exam English – Free Practice for IELTS, the TOEFL® and TOEIC® tests and the Cambridge English exams. [online] Examenglish.com. Available at: <https://www.examenglish.com> [Accessed 17 Feb. 2018].

7. Jamie Oliver. (2018). Jamie Oliver | Official website for recipes, books, tv shows and restaurants. [online] Available at: <https://www.jamieoliver.com> [Accessed 17 Feb. 2018].

8. Komensky Y.A. Izbrannye pedagogicheskie sochinenija [Selected pedagogical works]: 2 volumes, M.: Pedagogics, 1982. – 656 p.

9. Krylova E.A. Sovershenstvovanie inoyazychnoy samoobrazovatelnoy kompetencii studentov neyasykovykh vusov v usloviyah samostoyatelnoy raboty na osnove monitoring-technologii (na materiale angliiskogo yazyka) dis. ... of Cand. in Pedagogy : 13.00.02 / Krylova E.A. – SPb, 2015. – 238 p. [in Russian].

10. Loyal Books. (2018). LoyalBooks.com. [online] Available at: <http://www.loyalbooks.com/> [Accessed 17 Feb. 2018].

11. Speechyard.com. (2018). Learn English online – Speechyard. [online] Available at: <https://speechyard.com> [Accessed 17 Feb. 2018].

12. Woodward English. (2018). Woodward English. [online] Available at: <https://www.woodwardenglish.com/> [Accessed 17 Feb. 2018].