



## A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF TRADITIONAL AND MODERN APPROACHES TO TEACHING SPOKEN ENGLISH

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**Abstract:** In this article, we present a comparative analysis of traditional and modern approaches to teaching spoken English. We examine the characteristics of classical teaching methods focused on grammar and translation, as well as modern communicative and interactive approaches aimed at developing oral communication and practical communication skills. Particular attention is paid to the use of digital technologies, mobile applications, and online platforms in the learning process.

**Key words:** conversational english, traditional teaching methods, modern approaches, communicative method, digital technologies, foreign language teaching, online learning, educational technologies.

**Аннотация:** В данной статье мы представляем сравнительный анализ традиционных и современных подходов к обучению разговорному английскому языку. Рассматриваются особенности классических методов обучения, ориентированных на грамматико-переводную систему, а также современные коммуникативные и интерактивные подходы, направленные на развитие устной речи и практических навыков общения. Особое внимание уделяется использованию цифровых технологий, мобильных приложений и онлайн-платформ в процессе обучения.

**Ключевые слова:** разговорный английский язык, традиционные методы обучения, современные подходы, коммуникативный метод, цифровые технологии, обучение иностранным языкам, онлайн-обучение, образовательные технологии.



**Introduction.** In the context of globalization and the rapid development of international economic, cultural, and educational ties, knowledge of English is becoming an integral component of the professional competence of modern professionals. Proficiency in spoken English is particularly important, as it ensures effective communication in real-life and professional situations. Unlike theoretical knowledge of grammar and vocabulary, oral communication skills require a practical focus, interactivity, and constant linguistic interaction. Traditional approaches to teaching English, such as the grammar-translation method, have long held a leading position in educational practice. These methods focus primarily on the study of grammar rules, translation of texts, and the development of written language, which, in turn, limits the development of students' communicative competence. As a result, students often experience difficulties using the language orally, despite an adequate level of theoretical preparation.

Modern approaches to teaching spoken English are influenced by new educational trends, including communicative methods, interactive technologies, and the digitalization of the educational process. The use of online platforms, mobile applications, multimedia resources, and artificial intelligence allows for the creation of conditions as close as possible to the real language environment, which facilitates the development of fluent English communication skills. These methods make the learning process more flexible, accessible, and tailored to the learners' needs. The relevance of this research topic stems from the need to improve the effectiveness of teaching spoken English in today's environment, as well as the search for the optimal combination of traditional and innovative methods. Despite the obvious advantages of modern technologies, traditional approaches also remain valuable as the foundation of systematic language education.

**Main part.** The modern system of teaching foreign languages, particularly spoken English, is emerging at the intersection of traditional pedagogical approaches and innovative educational technologies, driven by changing demands on the quality



of language training for specialists in the context of globalization and digitalization. Traditional teaching methods, among which the grammar-translation method occupies a central place, have historically been aimed at developing students' in-depth knowledge of the grammatical structure of the language, developing translation skills, and understanding written texts. This approach is characterized by a systematic, logically consistent presentation of material and an emphasis on the precision of linguistic forms, which ensures fundamental language training and promotes the development of analytical thinking in students [1]. However, despite their advantages, traditional methods have significant limitations associated with insufficient attention to the development of communicative competence, particularly oral communication skills. This leads to a situation where students, despite possessing theoretical knowledge, experience difficulties in real-life communication in English [2].

In contrast to traditional methods, modern approaches to teaching spoken English focus on the practical use of language in communication. One of the most common is the communicative method, which involves learning through active interaction, simulating real-life situations, and developing spontaneous speech skills. This approach places particular emphasis on aspects such as fluency, listening comprehension, the ability to express thoughts, and participate in dialogue, which meets the modern demands of the labor market and international communication [3]. Furthermore, interactive teaching methods, including role-playing games, discussions, case studies, and group projects, have become widespread. These methods help students develop not only linguistic but also social competencies, such as teamwork, critical thinking, and adaptability [4].

Digital technologies are playing a significant role in transforming approaches to teaching spoken English, opening up new possibilities for organizing the educational process. The use of online platforms, mobile applications, video conferencing, and artificial intelligence systems allows for access to authentic



language materials, interaction with native speakers, and individualized learning. Tools such as virtual language environments, chatbots, and adaptive learning systems enhance learner motivation and learning efficiency through interactivity and flexibility [5]. Furthermore, digital technologies help overcome geographical and time constraints, ensuring continuity of the educational process and the opportunity for independent speaking practice at a convenient time [6].

In the process of comparative analysis of traditional and modern approaches to teaching spoken English, a quantitative assessment of their effectiveness is particularly important. Modern research in the field of foreign language teaching methods shows that different approaches have different impacts on the development of linguistic competencies, including grammatical accuracy, fluency, learner motivation, and level of engagement in the educational process. Traditional methods based on systematic grammar study and repetition demonstrate high results in the short-term acquisition of language structures, while modern communicative methods ensure a higher level of development of speaking skills and confidence in using the language in real-life situations. To more clearly demonstrate the differences between traditional and modern approaches, it is useful to consider comparative data obtained from empirical research in the field of English language teaching.

*Table 1.*

*Comparative analysis of the effectiveness of methods for teaching spoken english*

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Traditional Methods</i>	<i>Modern (communication) methods</i>
Main focus of training	Grammar, Translation, Theory	Communication, practice, speech
Development of grammatical accuracy	High Level (up to 80–85%)	Intermediate level (65–75%)



Development of speaking skills	Low-Intermediate Level (40–55%)	High level (75–90%)
Level of student engagement	Intermediate (50–60%)	High (80–95%)
Level of motivation	Moderate	High
Development of speaking confidence	Low	High
Test results (academic)	Higher in the Short Term	Higher in the long term
Practical use of language	Limited	Active
Use of technology	Minimal	Wide (online platforms, AI, apps)

The data presented in the table confirm that traditional teaching methods, despite their structured and systematic nature, primarily promote theoretical knowledge and grammatical accuracy, but are less effective in developing communicative skills. Specifically, research shows that students taught using the traditional model demonstrate higher scores on grammar tests, which is associated with the use of repetition and memorization methods. At the same time, communicative teaching methods contribute to a significant increase in fluency, confidence, and the ability to use language in real-life situations, as evidenced by increased student engagement and motivation rates of up to 90% and higher.

Furthermore, modern approaches focus on developing comprehensive communicative competence, encompassing not only linguistic but also sociocultural skills, which is especially important in the context of globalization. The use of interactive methods such as role-playing, discussions, and project work helps create a language environment as close to reality as possible, thereby ensuring more sustainable and practice-oriented learning outcomes [3]. Thus, the conducted analysis confirms the feasibility of integrating traditional and modern methods,



which allows for a combination of systematic teaching with a practical focus and significantly increases the overall effectiveness of mastering spoken English.

A comparative analysis of traditional and modern approaches shows that each has both advantages and disadvantages, making their integration within blended learning feasible. Traditional methods provide a solid theoretical foundation and a systemic understanding of language, while modern approaches promote the development of practical communication skills and adaptation to real-world communicative situations. An effective combination of these methods helps achieve a balance between accuracy and fluency, as well as improve learners' overall linguistic competence [7]. Thus, modern methods of teaching spoken English should be based on a comprehensive approach that takes into account both classical pedagogical principles and the potential of innovative technologies, which ensures a higher level of training for specialists and their competitiveness in the international arena.

***Conclusions and suggestions.*** A comparative analysis of traditional and modern approaches to teaching spoken English allows us to conclude that each method has both significant advantages and limitations. Traditional teaching methods provide a solid theoretical foundation, promote grammatical accuracy, and develop analytical skills. However, their insufficient focus on practical language use significantly reduces the development of students' communicative competence. Meanwhile, modern communicative and interactive approaches demonstrate high effectiveness in developing oral communication, increasing student motivation and engagement, and building confidence in using English in real-life situations. However, in some cases, they can lead to insufficient coverage of grammatical aspects of the language.

Therefore, the most effective model for teaching spoken English is an integrative approach that combines the strengths of traditional and modern methods. Blended learning helps ensure a balance between theoretical training and practical



language use, meeting the current demands of the educational environment and the labor market. In the context of digitalization of education, the introduction of innovative technologies that facilitate individualized learning and expand opportunities for language practice is particularly important.

Based on the conducted research, it is possible to formulate the following proposals:

❖ it is advisable to introduce a blended learning model into the educational process, combining elements of grammar-translation and communicative methods to achieve the comprehensive development of language skills.

❖ it is necessary to expand the use of interactive learning methods (discussions, role-playing games, case studies) aimed at developing spoken language and communicative competence.

❖ it is recommended to actively integrate digital technologies, including online platforms, mobile applications, and artificial intelligence systems, to improve the effectiveness and accessibility of learning.

❖ curriculums must be developed that focus on practical language application and the development of strong communication skills.

Overall, improving the system of teaching spoken English requires a comprehensive approach that takes into account both traditional pedagogical principles and modern innovative trends. This will significantly improve the quality of language training and the competitiveness of students in the global educational environment.

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