



HOW TO DEVELOP STUDENTS' SPEAKING CONFIDENCE

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Annotation: *This article explores effective strategies for developing students' speaking confidence in English language classrooms. Speaking is often considered one of the most challenging skills for learners due to fear of mistakes, lack of vocabulary, and anxiety. The paper discusses practical methods such as creating a supportive classroom environment, using communicative activities, encouraging peer interaction, and integrating modern technologies. The importance of teacher feedback and motivation is also highlighted. These approaches are particularly relevant for academic lyceums, where students are expected to develop both communicative competence and critical thinking skills.*

Аннотация: *Данная статья рассматривает эффективные способы развития уверенности учащихся при устной речи на английском языке. Говорение является одним из самых сложных навыков для изучающих язык из-за страха ошибок, недостаточного словарного запаса и психологического барьера. В статье анализируются практические методы, такие как создание поддерживающей атмосферы в классе, использование коммуникативных заданий, организация парной и групповой работы, а также применение современных технологий. Особое внимание уделяется роли обратной связи и мотивации. Рассмотренные подходы особенно актуальны для академических лицеев.*

Key Words: *Speaking confidence, English language teaching, communicative competence, classroom interaction, motivation, language anxiety, speaking skills, academic lyceum, teaching strategies, student-centered learning.*



Ключевые слова : Уверенность в говорении, обучение английскому языку, коммуникативная компетенция, взаимодействие в классе, мотивация, языковая тревожность, навыки говорения, академический лицей, методы обучения, ориентированное на ученика обучение.

Main Part

Developing students' speaking confidence is a crucial goal in teaching English, especially in academic lyceums where learners are preparing for higher education and professional communication. However, many students experience fear and hesitation when asked to speak in a foreign language. This problem can be addressed through a combination of psychological support, effective teaching strategies, and consistent practice.

First of all, creating a supportive and non-threatening classroom environment is essential. Students should feel safe to express their ideas without fear of criticism. Teachers play a key role in this process by encouraging participation and showing respect for every student's effort. Instead of focusing only on mistakes, teachers should emphasize communication and fluency.

Another important strategy is the use of communicative activities. Role-plays, discussions, debates, and presentations help students practice real-life communication. These activities not only improve speaking skills but also increase students' confidence as they become more familiar with expressing their thoughts in English.

Pair and group work are also highly effective. When students work in small groups, they feel less pressure compared to speaking in front of the whole class. This allows them to practice more freely and build confidence gradually. Peer interaction also helps learners learn from each other and develop collaborative skills.

In addition, teachers should provide constructive feedback. Correcting every mistake can discourage students, so it is important to focus on key errors and provide feedback in a supportive way. Positive reinforcement, such as praise and encouragement, can significantly boost students' motivation and self-confidence.



The integration of technology is another useful approach. Digital tools, language learning apps, and online speaking platforms give students more opportunities to practice outside the classroom. These tools can make learning more engaging and less stressful.

Finally, regular practice is essential for developing confidence. The more students speak, the more comfortable they become. Teachers should ensure that speaking activities are included in every lesson and that all students have equal opportunities to participate.

Conclusion

In conclusion, developing students' speaking confidence requires a comprehensive approach that includes emotional support, interactive teaching methods, and continuous practice. Teachers should create a positive learning environment, use communicative activities, encourage collaboration, and provide constructive feedback. By applying these strategies, students can overcome their fear of speaking and become more confident and effective communicators in English. This is especially important in academic lyceums, where strong language skills are essential for future academic and professional success.

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