

USING DEBATES TO IMPROVE SPEAKING SKILLS

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Abstract: Debates occupy a vital role in nurturing individuals to become active, initiative, and critical thinkers. In the course of debates, every participant's word, method of expression, the logical sequence, and fluency are put to the test. Debates serve as a preparatory stage for students, enabling them to justify their opinions, analyze opposing viewpoints, and either refute or defend them by providing arguments and reinforcing their convictions. Participation in debates compels one to focus on their spoken language, maximizing their ability to use the language effectively. This, in turn, develops high-level communication skills, teaching one to present their ideas systematically, maintain composure, and speak confidently in the presence of others.

Keywords: debates, speaking skills, communicative competence, critical thinking, social activity, pedagogical method, suggestions and questions, language acquisition.

Аннотация: Дебаты играют важную роль в формировании у человека активности, инициативности и критического мышления. В процессе дебатов проверяются каждое слово участника, способы выражения, логическая последовательность и беглость речи. Дебаты служат подготовительным этапом для студентов, позволяя им обосновывать свои взгляды, анализировать противоположные точки зрения, опровергать или защищать их, приводя аргументы и укрепляя свои убеждения. Участие в дебатах заставляет сосредоточиться на устной речи, что позволяет максимально эффективно использовать язык. В свою очередь, это развивает высокоуровневые коммуникативные навыки, учит излагать свои мысли системно, сохранять самообладание и уверенно выступать перед другими.

Ключевые слова: дебаты, навыки устной речи, коммуникативная компетенция, критическое мышление, социальная активность, педагогический метод, предложения и вопросы, освоение языка.

Annotatsiya: Munozaralar insonlarni faol, tashabbuskor va tanqidiy fikrlovchi sifatida tarbiyalashda muhim o'rin tutadi. Munozara jarayonida har bir ishtirokchining so'zi, fikrni ifodalash usuli, mantiqiy izchilligi va ravonligi sinovdan o'tadi. Munozaralar talabalar uchun o'z fikrini asoslab bera olish, qarama-qarshi nuqtai nazarlarni tahlil qilish, dalillar keltirib, ularni rad etish yoki himoya qilishga tayyorlovchi bosqich bo'lib xizmat qiladi. Munozaralarda qatnashish insonni og'zaki nutqiga e'tibor qaratishga, til imkoniyatlaridan samarali foydalanishga majbur etadi.

Bu esa o‘z navbatida yuqori kommunikativ ko‘nikmalarni rivojlantiradi, o‘z fikrini tizimli tarzda bayon qilish, o‘zini tuta bilish va boshqa odamlar oldida ishonchli gapira olishni o‘rgatadi.

Kalit so‘zlar: munozaralar, og‘zaki nutq ko‘nikmalari, kommunikativ kompetensiya, tanqidiy fikrlash, ijtimoiy faollik, pedagogik usul, takliflar va savollar, til o‘zlashtirish.

INTRODUCTION

Debates have become a prominent pedagogical method in language learning and development. Whether a beginner or an advanced student, debate serves as a comprehensive tool for the improvement of speech skills. The process requires learners to actively use their knowledge and skills, applying new vocabulary and expressions, and working on intonation and pronunciation. One significant advantage of debates is their ability to provide social and cultural linguistic practices, allowing participants to encounter and experiment with various speech styles relevant to real life and social issues. The procedure includes discussions on different topics, actively expressing attitudes on current affairs, and exchanging views by questions and answers. While participating in debates, individuals acquire the skills to express, object, compromise, and maintain balance in communication. Each participant endeavors to present their points clearly, succinctly, and, if necessary, to reformulate or clarify their statements, striving for a coherent delivery before an audience. This environment naturally cultivates fluent and authentic speech. Furthermore, debates play a crucial role not only as a platform for verbal expression but also in bridging the gap between spoken and written discourse, fostering the use of complex phrases and subtle nuances.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Through debates, critical thinking, argumentation, substantiation, responding to questions, and confirming or refuting positions acquire special significance. In this process, participants strengthen the fluency of their speech, logical coherence, and analytical skills. Every debater develops a speech strategy, learns the art of interaction, the etiquette of conversation, and the ability to address an audience in a convincing and structured manner. Debates teach learners or language enthusiasts to interact, remain proactive in didactic situations, articulate their thoughts and arguments openly and precisely, and respond promptly when necessary. The skills acquired are not only vital within the classroom but also in daily life, empowering individuals to participate actively in society, speak in public spaces, and engage in social processes confidently. Both teachers and students expand their speech culture, communication etiquette, professional interaction, and diplomacy through debate methods. Debates increase the efficiency of communication, teach to be concise and purposeful, and discuss without unnecessary or redundant expressions [1].

Debates also contribute significantly to the formation of critical and creative

thinking. Each participant, rather than relying solely on pre-prepared ideas, is required to respond to spontaneous points, remarks, and objections arising during live interactions. This practice fosters reflective thinking, the capacity to accept or rebuff others' perspectives, while simultaneously generating new arguments and viewpoints. In education, debates reinforce knowledge, improve skills, and function as an innovative approach in language acquisition. They deepen cultural awareness, correct sentence structure, expand vocabulary, and ensure consistency and depth between oral and written language. Debates are usually held in a free and open atmosphere, which encourages every participant to speak on various subjects, develop coherent reasoning, and practice logical thinking [2].

Debates assist individuals in overcoming psychological barriers, shyness, and hesitation in speech, paving the way to more confident and structured delivery. Participants expand their vocabulary, acquire oratory qualities, and advance in rapid comprehension and information transfer, resulting in the constant development of verbal intellect. Debates are mostly motivated by actual needs, interests, and practical requirements. Within these sessions, participants introduce meaningful questions and suggestions, which trigger attentive and relevant answers. This form of constant, dynamic dialogue enhances quick-thinking abilities, the selection of pertinent reasons and concepts, and the defense of one's standpoint. Additionally, the competitive yet friendly atmosphere promotes communication skills, connected speech, assertive and clear expression, self-control, and situational awareness [3].

Another aspect of debates is their contribution to forming both linguistically and culturally rich, clear, goal-oriented, and structured speech. Debate serves as a creative and innovative way for self-expression, communication, social dialogue, independent presentation, and the realization of ethical and cultural values. In today's society, possessing communication culture, communicative competence, social dynamism, and interaction skills hold particular importance. Debates foster individuals' growth into orators, effective communicators, and socially active members, ensuring their development as people who can listen and make themselves heard in any environment, defending both their opinions and rights. The psychological and pedagogical advantages of debates are thoroughly discussed in various academic resources. Debates teach to collect thoughts, pose questions, respond quickly and precisely, and adjust to dynamic social interaction. Thus, participants develop speech skills, evidence-based reasoning, sound and confident speech style, and ethical and transparent communication qualities [4].

Adopting the debate method in language learning not only develops linguistic competence but also strengthens independent thinking, leadership qualities, and the courage to speak confidently before others. Experience in debates supports students in composing themselves in any context, thus contributing to their personal, social, and

cultural maturity and responsibility [5].

CONCLUSION

Utilizing debates to enhance speaking skills yields not only linguistic benefits but also improves critical and creative thinking, independent reasoning, and the courage to speak before an audience. The debate method plays a crucial role in acquiring fluency, clarity, healthy negotiation styles, and the ability to form independent, open, and structured speeches, which are essential for personal and communal development. The skills and qualities developed in debates are universally valuable, enabling individuals to confidently express themselves, solve problems collaboratively, and maintain a relevant position in society. Debates contribute significantly to the cultivation of a competent speaker, who with their refined oratory ability, logical reasoning, and innovative mindset, achieves recognition and success in any sphere of modern life.

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