

THE ROLE OF COLLABORATIVE LEARNING STRATEGIES IN DEVELOPING SPEAKING SKILLS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE STUDENTS

РОЛЬ СТРАТЕГИЙ СОВМЕСТНОГО ОБУЧЕНИЯ В РАЗВИТИИ НАВЫКОВ
УСТНОЙ РЕЧИ У СТУДЕНТОВ, ИЗУЧАЮЩИХ ИНОСТРАННЫЕ ЯЗЫКИ

XORIJIY TIL O'QUVCHILARIDA NUTQIY KO'NIKMALARNI
RIVOJLANTIRISHDA HAMKORLIKDAGI TA'LIM
STRATEGIYALARINING O'RNI

Saitmurotov Fariddun Farxod o'g'li

Tagayeva Madina Ilxomovna

Tolibova Sabina Bakhtiyorovna

Abstract: Modern usage is one of the most important aspects of developing students' oral communication skills in language education. Many EFL (English as a Foreign Language) students face difficulties in communicating fluently in English. One of the main tools for this is effective communicative creativity in the classroom. This article analyzes the importance of collaborative learning strategies in language teaching in developing speaking skills. The article states that collaborative learning is an effective pedagogical tool for developing students' communicative competence, helping them in the classroom and increasing their confidence in maintaining their language skills.

Keywords: collaborative learning, speaking skills, EFL, communicative competence, pair work, group work.

Аннотация: Современное использование языка является одним из важнейших аспектов развития навыков устной коммуникации у студентов в языковом образовании. Многие студенты, изучающие английский как иностранный язык (EFL), сталкиваются с трудностями в свободном общении на английском языке. Одним из главных инструментов для этого является эффективная коммуникативная креативность в классе. В данной статье анализируется важность стратегий совместного обучения в преподавании языка для развития навыков устной речи. В статье утверждается, что совместное обучение является эффективным педагогическим инструментом для развития коммуникативной компетенции студентов, помогая им в классе и повышая их уверенность в поддержании языковых навыков.

Ключевые слова: совместное обучение, навыки устной речи, EFL, коммуникативная компетенция, работа в парах, работа в группах.

Annotatsiya: Zamonaviy xorijiy til ta'limida o'quvchilarning og'zaki nutq ko'nikmalarini rivojlantirish muhim vazifalardan biri hisoblanadi. Ko'plab EFL

(English as a Foreign Language) talabalari ingliz tilida erkin muloqot qilishda qiyinchiliklarga duch keladi. Buning asosiy sabablaridan biri dars jarayonida yetarli darajada kommunikativ muhitning yaratilmasligidir. Mazkur maqolada xorijiy tilni o'qitishda collaborative learning strategiyalarining speaking ko'nikmasini rivojlantirishdagi ahamiyati tahlil qilinadi. Tadqiqot natijalari shuni ko'rsatadiki, collaborative learning strategiyalari o'quvchilarning kommunikativ kompetensiyasini rivojlantirish, dars jarayonidagi faolligini oshirish hamda ingliz tilida muloqot qilishga bo'lgan ishonchini mustahkamlashda samarali pedagogik vosita hisoblanadi.

Kalit so'zlar: collaborative learning, speaking skill, EFL, kommunikativ kompetensiya, pair work, group work.

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Introduction

One of the foundations for developing students' communicative competence in the process of teaching languages that has emerged in the modern education system. Developing speaking skills is important for students learning English as a foreign language. Because oral speech creates the use of language in real communicative situations. Speaking skills in the process of language learning form the students' ability to express their thoughts freely, actively participate in the communication process, and use the language practically (Harmer, 2007).

Many EFL students encounter them when speaking English fluently. According to research, in traditional teaching methods, students passively participate in the lesson process, as a result of which they do not have the opportunity to use the language in the communication process (Nunan, 1991). Therefore, in modern pedagogy, effective teaching methods for the active participation of students have a significant role.

One of them is collaborative learning. Collaborative learning teaches students to acquire knowledge together, both in the form of a product and in the form of a small group. According to researchers, the process of collaborative creative learning develops students' activity in the lesson process and their communicative development

(Slavin, 1995). In the process of group work, students freely express their thoughts, actively participate in the communication process, and develop their speaking skills. The purpose of this article is to analyze the role of the collaborative learning strategy in the process of language teaching in helping EFL students develop speaking skills. The research organization examines the role of methods such as pair work, group work, and group discussion in the development of students' oral speech.

Literature review

In modern pedagogy and foreign language teaching methodology, collaborative learning has been widely studied as one of the effective educational approaches. According to researchers, a collaborative learning process ensures the active participation of students and makes the process of learning more effective. In particular, Robert E. Slavin emphasizes that collaborative learning improves students' academic performance and increases their motivation in the learning process¹. Jeremy Harmer also notes that group activities in foreign language teaching play an important role in developing students' speaking skills². David Nunan emphasizes that educational methods based on communicative activities help students use the language in real communication³.

Uzbek scientists also emphasize the importance of using interactive methods in foreign language teaching. For example, J. Jalolov emphasizes that methods in which students actively participate in the process of teaching a foreign language serve to develop students' communicative competence⁴. Also, G. Bakieva notes that group activities in teaching English are an effective tool for developing students' speech activity⁵.

Russian scientists have also widely studied cooperative learning approaches that are close to collaborative learning. For example, E. I. Passov emphasizes that lessons organized on the basis of the communicative method are important in developing students' oral speech⁶. Also, I. P. Podlasy notes that students' mutual cooperation in the pedagogical process increases the effectiveness of education⁷.

Research Methodology

This study used qualitative and observational research methods to determine the effectiveness of collaborative learning strategies in developing EFL students' speaking skills. The study was conducted with the participation of a group of university students studying a foreign language. Activities based on collaborative learning strategies, including pair work, group work, and group discussion methods, were used in the

¹ Slavin, Robert E. Cooperative Learning: Theory, Research, and Practice. Boston: Allyn & Bacon, 1995. 286 p.

² Harmer, Jeremy. How to Teach English. London: Longman, 2007. 288 p.

³ Nunan, David. Language Teaching Methodology: A Textbook for Teachers. London: Prentice Hall, 1991. 297 p.

⁴ Jalolov, Jamol J. Chet til o'qitish metodikasi. Toshkent: O'qituvchi, 2012. 250 b.

⁵ Bakieva, Gulnora. Ingliz tilini o'qitish metodikasi. Toshkent: Fan, 2016. 180 b.

⁶ Пассов Евгений Иванович Коммуникативный метод обучения иноязычному управлению. Москва: Просвещение, 1991. 223 с.

⁷ Подласы, Игорь Петрович Педагогика. Москва: Владос, 2004. 576 с.

lesson. These activities were aimed at encouraging students to communicate in English and developing their speaking skills.

Several methods were used in the research process. First, the observation method was used to regularly analyze student activities during the lesson. The level of students' communication in English, their activity in the lesson, and their participation in group activities were observed. Second, short interviews were conducted with students through the interview method to study their attitude towards collaborative learning strategies. Third, the results of the traditional lesson and the collaborative learning-based lesson were compared through the pedagogical experiment method.

Results

The results of the study showed that in classes where collaborative learning strategies were used, students had more opportunities to communicate in English. Group activities helped students express their ideas freely and had a positive impact on the development of speaking skills.

The results of the study showed that collaborative learning strategies have a positive effect on the development of EFL students' speaking skills. The use of activities such as pair work and group work during the lesson encouraged students to communicate actively in English. Observations showed that in lessons organized on the basis of collaborative learning, students tried to speak more in English and participated more actively in the communication process. Such activities increased students' participation in the lesson process and developed their speaking skills.

It was also observed during the study that students tried to express their thoughts freely. During group discussions, students listened to each other's opinions, asked questions, and tried to express their views in English. This had a positive effect on the development of their speaking skills. Working in small groups reduced students' psychological barriers and gave them confidence in communicating in English.

The results also showed that during collaborative learning activities, an atmosphere of cooperation was formed among students. Students actively collaborated in the language learning process, helping each other. This process developed not only their speaking skills, but also their communicative and social skills. As a result, it was found that collaborative learning strategies are an effective pedagogical tool for developing speaking skills in foreign language teaching.

Analysis

The analysis of the research results shows that the use of collaborative learning strategies is an important pedagogical factor in developing EFL students' speaking skills. The pair work and group work activities organized during the lesson created opportunities for students to communicate more in English. As a result, students tried to express their thoughts in English and actively participated in the communication process.

The analysis shows that in the collaborative learning process, an environment of mutual cooperation is formed between students. During group activities, students listen to each other's opinions, ask questions and solve problems together. This develops not only their language skills, but also their social and communicative competencies. Also, working in small groups reduces students' psychological barriers and helps them increase their confidence in speaking English⁸.

The research results showed that in lessons where collaborative learning strategies were used, students spoke more English and participated more actively. This had a positive effect on the development of speaking skills. At the same time, students had the opportunity to learn new words and phrases during group activities and use them in communication. The results of the analysis show that collaborative learning strategies are one of the effective methods for developing speaking skills in teaching a foreign language. These methods increase the activity of students in the lesson process and help to form their communicative competence.

Discussion

The results of this study showed that collaborative learning strategies are an effective pedagogical approach in developing EFL students' speaking skills. The results observed during the study are also consistent with previous scientific studies. In particular, collaborative learning enhances students' interaction and increases their activity in the lesson process. According to the researchers, collaborative learning strategies create opportunities for students to use language in real communicative activities⁹.

During the discussion, it was found that activities such as pair work and group work play an important role in developing students' speaking skills. During such activities, students express their thoughts in English, ask questions, and exchange ideas on various topics. This develops their ability to use the language practically. Jeremy Harmer also emphasizes the importance of group activities in teaching a foreign language in forming students' communicative competence (Harmer, 2007).

Also, the use of collaborative learning strategies reduces students' psychological barriers. Working in small groups creates a comfortable and relaxed environment for students, which helps them increase their confidence in speaking English. As a result, students participate more actively in the lesson and have more opportunities to develop speaking skills. Overall, the results of the study confirm that collaborative learning strategies are an important pedagogical tool for developing speaking skills in the process of teaching a foreign language. The effective use of these methods serves to develop students' communicative competence and organize the language learning process more effectively.

⁸ Nunan, David. *Language Teaching Methodology: A Textbook for Teachers*. London: Prentice Hall, 1991. - p. 58

⁹ Slavin, Robert E. *Cooperative Learning: Theory, Research, and Practice*. Boston: Allyn & Bacon, 1995. - p 24-29

Conclusion

In conclusion, collaborative learning strategies are an important pedagogical tool in developing students' speaking skills in the process of teaching a foreign language. The results of the study showed that activities such as pair work, group work, and group discussion expand students' opportunities to communicate in English and increase their activity in the lesson process. These methods create an atmosphere of cooperation among students and help them express their opinions freely. As a result, students' communicative competence and speaking skills develop. Therefore, the effective use of collaborative learning strategies in foreign language lessons serves to improve the quality of the language teaching process.

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