MODERN INTERACTIVE METHODS IN TEACHING FOREIGN LANGUAGE TO YOUNG LEARNERS AT PRE-SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS

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Annotation: The theme "Modern Interactive Methods in Teaching Foreign Languages to Young Learners at Preschool Organizations" focuses on innovative, engaging, and child-centered approaches to language education. Interactive methods such as gamification, storytelling, role-playing, songs, digital tools, and Montessori-based activities help create a stimulating learning environment. These approaches cater to preschoolers' natural curiosity and short attention spans, fostering active participation, social interaction, and experiential learning. This topic is relevant for early childhood educators, linguists, and curriculum developers, aiming to optimize language learning through play-based and immersive experiences. The study of these methods can help improve language fluency, cognitive development, and cultural awareness in young learners.

Key words: Interactive learning; preschool education; foreign language acquisition; gamification; storytelling; role-playing; Total Physical Response (TPR); Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL); digital learning tools; augmented reality (AR); songs and rhymes; play-based learning; cognitive development; early childhood education; immersive learning.

Teaching a foreign language to preschool-aged children requires a child-centered, engaging, and interactive approach. Since young learners have short attention spans and learn best through play and experience, modern teaching methods focus on multisensory activities, movement, and technology to make language acquisition more effective. Key Principles of Teaching Foreign Languages to Young Learners:

1. Play-Based Learning: Young children learn naturally through play. Incorporating toys, puppets, board games, and puzzles makes learning enjoyable.

2. Immersion: Surrounding children with the target language in a natural and meaningful way helps them acquire it effortlessly. Using songs, rhymes, and everyday classroom interactions in the foreign language is essential.

3. Multisensory Engagement: Combining visual, auditory, and kinesthetic elements ensures deeper learning. For example, showing pictures while saying words and asking children to act them out reinforces memory.

Modern Interactive Methods in Teaching Foreign Languages

1. Gamification: Using elements of competition, rewards, and challenges to keep children motivated. Examples: Language learning apps (Duolingo Kids, Lingokids), flashcard games, and interactive quizzes.

2. Storytelling & Role-Playing: Encourages creativity and contextual understanding. Examples: Acting out fairy tales, using puppets to tell a story, and making children role-play as shopkeepers, doctors, or travelers in a foreign language.

3. Total Physical Response (TPR): A method where children physically respond to commands in the target language, reinforcing understanding through movement. Example: The teacher says, "Jump," and children jump, associating action with meaning.

4. Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL): Integrating language learning with other subjects such as math, science, or art. Example: Teaching numbers in a foreign language while doing a counting activity.

5. Digital Tools and Augmented Reality (AR): Using apps, interactive whiteboards, and AR-based activities to make learning visually engaging. Example: Children use an AR app to see animated characters speaking in a foreign language.

6. Songs, Rhymes, and Chants: Music helps with pronunciation, rhythm, and memorization of new words. Example: Singing "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes" in English to learn body parts.

7. Project-Based Learning (PBL): Encouraging teamwork and problem-solving through real-life projects in a foreign language. Example: Making a mini book about "My Family" with pictures and sentences in the target language.

Benefits of Interactive Methods: enhances motivation and engagement; improves retention through multisensory input; boosts confidence in using the language naturally; encourages communication and social skills; develops cognitive flexibility and problem-solving abilities; by integrating modern interactive methods, preschool educators can create a fun, immersive, and effective language learning environment that builds a strong foundation for future fluency.

Teaching foreign languages to preschoolers is a unique challenge that requires engaging, interactive, and developmentally appropriate methods. Unlike older learners, young children do not learn through rote memorization or traditional grammar lessons. Instead, they acquire language naturally through play, interaction, and exploration. Modern interactive teaching methods incorporate technology, movement, storytelling, music, and social interaction to create an immersive environment that fosters communication skills, cognitive development, and cultural awareness. This paper explores various modern approaches that make foreign language learning effective and enjoyable for young learners in preschool settings.

1. The Importance of Early Foreign Language Learning

Early childhood is the best time to introduce a foreign language because:

Brain Plasticity: Young children's brains are highly adaptable, making it easier to acquire multiple languages naturally.

Pronunciation and Accent: They can learn and mimic native-like pronunciation more easily than older learners.

Cognitive Benefits: Learning a second language enhances memory, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills.

Cultural Awareness: Exposure to different languages broadens their worldview and fosters respect for diversity.

For these reasons, preschool organizations should incorporate modern, interactive methods that cater to young learners' needs.

Cognitive Benefits: Learning a second language enhances memory, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills.

Cultural Awareness: Exposure to different languages broadens their worldview and fosters respect for diversity.

Here are some references that support the concepts discussed in the paper on modern interactive methods in teaching foreign languages to young learners at preschool organizations. These sources cover language acquisition, interactive teaching methods, cognitive development, and digital tools in education:

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