USING LITERARY WORKS IN TEACHING ENGLISH TO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Termiz State Pedagogical Institute, Faculty of Languages,

Department of Foreign Languages in the

Humanities, Instructor **Visola Samadova**

visolasamadova5@gmail.com

Termiz State Pedagogical Institute, Faculty of Languages

4th-year student: **Toshpo'latova Xolidabonu**

xolidatoshpolatova4@gmail.com

Annotation. This article discusses the methodology of using literary works in teaching English to university students. It highlights how literature enhances linguistic, communicative, and cultural competence by exposing learners to authentic language and real-life contexts. The paper explains pre-reading, while-reading, and post-reading strategies, as well as criteria for selecting appropriate texts. It also presents practical classroom activities that develop vocabulary, critical thinking, and creativity. The study concludes that literature is a valuable and effective tool for improving students' English proficiency.

Аннотация. В данной статье рассматривается методика использования художественной литературы при обучении английскому языку студентов вузов. Подчеркивается, что литературные произведения способствуют развитию языковой, коммуникативной и культурной компетенций, предоставляя аутентичный языковой материал и реальные контексты. В работе описаны стратегии до-, во время- и после-чтения, а также критерии отбора подходящих текстов. Представлены практические задания, развивающие словарный запас, критическое мышление и творческие способности. Делается вывод, что литература является эффективным и ценным инструментом повышения уровня владения английским языком.

Annotatsiya. Ushbu maqolada talabalarga ingliz tilini o'rgatishda badiiy asarlardan foydalanish metodikasi yoritilgan. Unda adabiy matnlar talabalarning lingvistik, kommunikativ va madaniy kompetensiyalarini rivojlantirishda muhim ahamiyatga ega ekani ta'kidlanadi. Maqolada asar bilan ishlashning o'qishdan oldingi, o'qish jarayonidagi va o'qishdan keyingi metodlari hamda matn tanlash mezonlari bayon etiladi. Shuningdek, so'z boyligini, tanqidiy fikrlashni va ijodkorlikni rivojlantiruvchi amaliy mashqlar misollar keltiriladi. Tadqiqot natijasiga ko'ra, badiiy asarlar ingliz tili o'qitishda samarali va foydali vosita hisoblanadi.

Introduction. The use of literary works in teaching English to university students has become an important methodological approach in modern language education. Literature offers learners authentic language, natural expressions, and culturally rich contexts that traditional textbooks often lack. Through stories, novels, poems, and plays, students are exposed to real-life vocabulary, idioms, emotional depth, and various stylistic features that help them understand the language more deeply.Working with literary texts also develops essential academic skills such as reading comprehension, critical thinking, and interpretation. University students learn to analyze characters, themes, and ideas while expanding their linguistic competence. In addition, literature strengthens intercultural awareness by introducing learners to the traditions, values, and social realities of English-speaking communities.

The Role of Literary Texts in Language Learning

Literature serves as a rich linguistic resource, offering context-based learning where vocabulary, grammar, and discourse patterns appear naturally. Students develop analytical skills by examining characters, conflicts, and themes, which encourages independent thinking and reflective learning. Additionally, literary texts promote empathy, perspective-taking, and cultural sensitivity, allowing learners to understand diverse human experiences. This combination of linguistic, cognitive, and emotional engagement makes literature a powerful tool in language education.

Methodological Approaches

Pre-reading activities: activate prior knowledge, predict content, and introduce key vocabulary. These activities prepare students for understanding the text and increase engagement.

While-reading activities: involve identifying main ideas, annotating important points, reading in roles, and answering comprehension questions. These techniques help students actively interact with the text and consolidate language learning.

Post-reading activities: include retelling the story, summarizing, writing essays or reflections, discussing themes, and dramatizing selected scenes. These tasks enhance memory retention, creativity, and communicative skills.

Criteria for Selecting Texts

Choosing suitable texts is essential for effective teaching. Texts should match students' language proficiency, be interesting and culturally informative, and have manageable length. Adapted literary works or graded readers are particularly useful, as they balance simplicity of language with meaningful content. Teachers should also consider themes that resonate with students' age, interests, and academic level to maintain motivation.

Benefits of Using Literature

Using literary works in the classroom provides multiple benefits: Exposure to authentic and contextualized language,development of reading, writing, listening, and

speaking skills,enhancement of critical thinking and analytical abilities,increased motivation and engagement,improved cultural and emotional understanding

In conclusion, the integration of literary works into English language teaching offers numerous pedagogical benefits that extend beyond traditional grammar and vocabulary instruction. Literary texts provide authentic language input, exposing students to natural expressions, idioms, and diverse syntactic structures in context. This exposure enhances all four language skills—reading, writing, listening, and speaking—while simultaneously developing critical thinking and interpretive abilities.Moreover, literature fosters cultural competence by introducing learners to the social values, traditions, and perspectives of English-speaking communities. Engaging with characters, plots, and conflicts enables students to empathize with different viewpoints, analyze human behavior, and relate literary themes to their own experiences, thereby promoting deeper emotional and cognitive engagement.The methodological use of literature—through pre-reading, while-reading, and post-reading activities—encourages active participation and independent learning. Activities such as predicting storylines, role-playing, creative writing, summarizing, and discussion allow students to consolidate language knowledge while stimulating creativity and motivation. This interactive approach transforms reading from a passive task into a meaningful and enjoyable learning experience.Ultimately, literature is not only a tool for language acquisition but also a medium for developing broader intellectual and emotional skills. By carefully selecting appropriate texts and applying effective teaching strategies, educators can maximize the benefits of literature in the classroom.

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