

IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING ENGLISH IN UZBEKISTAN**Raxmanova Sitora Abduraxmonovna***Teacher of English at the department of “Languages” of the Sirdarya Academic lyceum of the Ministry of Internal Affairs*

Annotation: *This article delves into the multifaceted importance and essential components of learning a foreign language, with a specific focus on English. In recent years, English plays an essential role in Uzbekistan in every direction that is belonging to tourism, medicine, technology and others. In this article it is discussed several benefits of learning English as a foreign language, the significance of language acquisition in today's interconnected world; emphasizing its role in enhancing communication, fostering cultural understanding, and unlocking opportunities for personal and professional growth.*

Key words: *Lingua franca, presidential decree, mother tongue, government, educational reforms, language skills, effective methods, global communication, cultural enrichment.*

INTRODUCTION

English language proficiency has become an essential skill in the globalized world, facilitating international communication, commerce, and education. Recognizing its significance, many countries, including Uzbekistan, have incorporated English language teaching into their educational systems. However, ensuring effective English language instruction requires a comprehensive understanding of the prevailing methods, challenges, and opportunities within the educational framework. This article undertakes a theoretical analysis of the state of English language teaching in the systems of general secondary and secondary specialized vocational education in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In today's globalized world, the importance of learning a foreign language, particularly English, cannot be overstated. As the lingua franca of international communication, trade, and diplomacy, English has become an indispensable tool for individuals seeking to navigate the complexities of our interconnected society. Uzbekistan's policy of openness, active entry into the global market, expansion of international cooperation in all areas increase the need for studying foreign languages. Thus, on May 6, 2021, our President Shavkat Mirziyoyev chaired a meeting on measures to improve the system of teaching foreign languages. "While we set ourselves the goal of building a competitive state, from now on, school, secondary school, college and higher education institution graduates are required to master at least two foreign languages perfectly. Uzbekistan's policy of openness, active penetration into the world market, internationalization in all areas, expansion of cooperation increases the need for knowledge of foreign languages"[1], Shavkat Mirziyoyev said. Today, there is a so-called independent Uzbekistan in the world,

which has its own high potential and unique prestige, and a high-spirited nation with a rich culture lives in this country. Emphasizing that the role, prestige and position of this nation in the world community are changing radically, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev also said: “we will mobilize all the forces and capabilities of our state and society”.

To resolve the issue, the responsible ministries and departments have been given many tasks, including the introduction of proven effective methods, programs and textbooks into the education system, the identification and involvement of talented representatives of the field and children with great potential in the learning process, and their encouragement.

The Significance of Learning a Foreign Language

1. **Global Communication:** Learning a foreign language, such as English, facilitates communication with people from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds, transcending national borders and fostering mutual understanding. In an increasingly interconnected world, proficiency in English enables individuals to engage in international dialogue, exchange ideas, and collaborate on a global scale.

2. **Academic and Professional Opportunities:** Proficiency in English opens doors to a wide range of academic and professional opportunities, both domestically and internationally. Many universities and employers require proficiency in English for admission or employment, recognizing it as a valuable asset in today's competitive job market.

3. **Cultural Enrichment:** Learning a foreign language provides insights into the culture, history, and traditions of its speakers, enriching one's understanding of the world and fostering cross-cultural appreciation. Through language study, individuals gain access to a wealth of literature, music, art, and film from diverse linguistic communities, broadening their cultural horizons and enhancing their global perspective.

4. **Cognitive Benefits:** Research has shown that learning a foreign language offers numerous cognitive benefits, including improved memory, problem-solving skills, and multitasking abilities. Bilingualism has also been linked to enhanced creativity, critical thinking, and cognitive flexibility, as individuals navigate between different linguistic systems and cultural contexts.

5. **Personal Growth and Development:** Beyond the practical benefits, learning a foreign language contributes to personal growth and self-improvement. It challenges individuals to step outside their comfort zones, persevere through challenges, and embrace lifelong learning. Moreover, language study fosters resilience, adaptability, and empathy, as individuals navigate the complexities of communication across linguistic and cultural barriers.

The Content of Learning a Foreign (English) Language

1. **Language Skills:** Proficiency in English encompasses four primary language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Language learners must

develop competence in each of these areas to effectively communicate and comprehend English in various contexts.

- **Listening:** Listening comprehension involves understanding spoken English in diverse accents, speeds, and registers. Language learners must be able to follow conversations, lectures, and audio recordings, extracting key information and identifying main ideas, supporting details, and implied meanings.

- **Speaking:** Speaking proficiency entails expressing oneself fluently and accurately in spoken English, engaging in conversations, presentations, and discussions on a wide range of topics. Language learners must develop pronunciation, intonation, and fluency, as well as vocabulary and grammar skills, to communicate effectively in spoken English.

- **Reading:** Reading comprehension involves understanding written English texts, including articles, essays, reports, and literature. Language learners must be able to identify main ideas, infer meaning from context, analyze arguments, and evaluate sources critically, developing reading strategies to comprehend and interpret English texts effectively.

- **Writing:** Writing proficiency entails producing coherent and well-organized written English texts, including essays, reports, emails, and letters. Language learners must develop skills in grammar, vocabulary, punctuation, and style, as well as critical thinking and research skills, to communicate their ideas clearly and persuasively in written English.

2. **Vocabulary and Grammar:** Vocabulary and grammar are essential components of English language proficiency, providing the building blocks for effective communication and comprehension. Language learners must acquire a wide range of vocabulary words and phrases, including nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, and conjunctions, to express themselves accurately and fluently in English. Additionally, learners must master English grammar rules and structures, including sentence construction, verb tense, subject-verb agreement, word order, and punctuation, to communicate effectively and avoid misunderstandings.

3. **Cultural and Sociolinguistic Competence:** Cultural and sociolinguistic competence is crucial for effective communication in English, as language use is shaped by cultural norms, values, and social conventions. Language learners must develop an understanding of cultural differences, customs, etiquette, and communication styles, adapting their language and behavior accordingly to interact respectfully and appropriately with speakers of English from diverse cultural backgrounds.

4. **Communication Strategies:** Communication strategies are essential for overcoming communication barriers and conveying meaning effectively in English. Language learners must develop skills in clarification, paraphrasing, repetition, elaboration, and repair strategies to address comprehension difficulties, negotiate meaning, and resolve communication breakdowns in spoken and written English.

5. Authentic Materials and Real-World Contexts: Language learning should be grounded in authentic materials and real-world contexts, providing learners with opportunities to engage with English language and culture in meaningful ways. Authentic materials, such as newspapers, magazines, websites, videos, podcasts, and social media, expose learners to natural language use and cultural content, enhancing their language skills and cultural awareness. Moreover, real-world contexts, such as conversations, interviews, role-plays, simulations, and projects, enable learners to apply their language skills in authentic communicative situations, developing fluency, confidence, and intercultural competence in English.

Conclusion

In conclusion, learning a foreign language, particularly English, is of paramount significance in today's globalized world. Proficiency in English opens doors to a wide range of academic, professional, and personal opportunities, enhancing communication, cultural enrichment, cognitive development, and personal growth. The content of English language learning encompasses language skills, vocabulary and grammar, cultural and sociolinguistic competence, communication strategies, and authentic materials and real-world contexts, providing learners with the essential tools and resources to communicate effectively and confidently in English. As individuals embark on their language learning journey, they not only acquire linguistic competence but also gain insights into the rich tapestry of human language and culture, fostering mutual understanding, respect, and appreciation in our interconnected world.

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