



Formation of Students' Communicative Competence through the PIRLS Program

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Abstract: The article "Formation of Students' Communicative Competence through the PIRLS Program" discusses the use of the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) program to develop students' communicative competence. The article is focused on exploring the impact of PIRLS program on students' communicative competence and the effectiveness of the program in developing students' reading, writing, and speaking skills.

The article begins by introducing the importance of communicative competence in today's society and highlights the role of education in developing this competence. The authors then provide an overview of the PIRLS program, which is a large-scale international assessment of reading comprehension among fourth-grade students.

Keywords: PIRLS, competence, primary school, communicative competence, methods, education, interactive methods.

The Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) is primarily focused on measuring and comparing the reading achievement of fourth-grade students across countries. However, the PIRLS program also includes a framework for developing students' communicative competence, which is an essential component of reading comprehension.

The PIRLS framework for communicative competence is based on the following components:

1. Functional literacy: Students should be able to use language to perform a variety of communicative functions, such as expressing opinions, making requests, and asking questions.
2. Critical literacy: Students should be able to analyze and evaluate texts, understand the author's perspective, and make connections between different texts.
3. Intercultural literacy: Students should be able to understand and appreciate different cultures, and communicate effectively with people from different backgrounds.
4. Digital literacy: Students should be able to use digital technologies to access, analyze, and communicate information.

To implement the PIRLS framework for communicative competence, teachers can use a variety of instructional strategies and activities that promote the development of these four components. For example:

- Functional literacy can be developed through activities such as role-playing, debates, and discussions.
- Critical literacy can be developed through activities such as analyzing and evaluating different types of texts, including fiction, non-fiction, and multimedia texts.

- Intercultural literacy can be developed through activities that expose students to different cultures and promote understanding and appreciation of diversity.
- Digital literacy can be developed through activities that teach students how to use digital technologies to access and analyze information, and communicate effectively using digital media.

Overall, the PIRLS program provides a framework for developing students' communicative competence through a range of instructional strategies and activities.

Interactive methods in education are designed to actively engage students in the learning process by encouraging them to participate, ask questions, and collaborate with their peers. These methods are often used to supplement traditional lecture-based teaching and can lead to more effective learning outcomes.

Some examples of interactive methods used in the educational process include:

1. **Group discussions:** This involves dividing students into groups and allowing them to discuss a topic or question. This method encourages students to share their ideas and perspectives, listen to their peers, and work collaboratively.
2. **Role-playing:** This involves assigning students specific roles or scenarios to act out. This method can help students understand complex concepts by allowing them to experience them in a more tangible way.
3. **Case studies:** This involves presenting students with a real-world scenario or problem and asking them to analyze it and propose solutions. This method encourages critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
4. **Games and simulations:** This involves using interactive games or simulations to teach students specific skills or concepts. This method can be particularly effective for teaching complex or abstract topics.
5. **Peer teaching:** This involves assigning students to teach each other on a specific topic or concept. This method encourages students to take ownership of their learning and can help reinforce their understanding of the material.

Overall, interactive teaching methods can help make learning more engaging, memorable, and effective. By encouraging students to participate actively in the learning process, they can help cultivate critical thinking, problem-solving, and teamwork skills.

There are several interactive methods that can be used to develop students' communicative competence, including:

1. **Role-playing:** In this method, students are assigned different roles and scenarios to act out, which helps them practice using language in a realistic and interactive way.
2. **Dialogue journals:** In a dialogue journal, students write back and forth to one another, practicing their writing and reading skills while also developing their ability to communicate effectively through written language.
3. **Group discussions:** Group discussions allow students to practice their speaking and listening skills in a collaborative setting. This method can also help students learn to express their opinions and ideas clearly and respectfully.
4. **Debate:** Debates can be a fun and engaging way for students to practice their critical thinking and argumentation skills while also developing their ability to communicate effectively.
5. **Simulations:** Simulations involve creating a real-life scenario in the classroom, allowing students to practice communication skills in a realistic and interactive way.
6. **Collaborative projects:** Collaborative projects require students to work together to complete a task or project, which can help them develop their ability to communicate effectively with others.

Overall, interactive methods that involve real-life scenarios and collaboration can be effective in developing students' communicative competence.

There are several interactive methods that can be used to form students' communicative competence, including:

1. **Role-play:** Role-play activities allow students to practice real-life situations and use language in context. By taking on different roles and scenarios, students can learn to communicate effectively in a variety of situations.
2. **Group discussions:** Group discussions provide opportunities for students to share their opinions, ask questions, and express their ideas. This helps to develop their ability to express themselves and listen to others.
3. **Debate:** Debates encourage students to argue their point of view and defend their position using persuasive language. This can help to develop critical thinking skills and the ability to form coherent arguments.
4. **Pair work:** Pair work activities involve students working together in pairs to complete a task or discuss a topic. This can help to develop their ability to collaborate, negotiate, and communicate effectively with others.
5. **Simulations:** Simulations involve students participating in a scenario that replicates a real-life situation. This can help to develop their ability to communicate effectively in a specific context.

It's important to note that these methods should be used in conjunction with a variety of other language learning activities, such as vocabulary and grammar exercises, reading and writing tasks, and listening and speaking practice.

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