

# Implementation of Innovative Methods of Teaching Foreign Languages in Distance Education (Benefits and Drawbacks of Using Webinars)

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## ABSTRACT

This article discusses introduction of innovative methods of teaching foreign languages in distance education in the educational system, as well as the advantages and disadvantages of using webinars. Also, the article examines the problems and shortcomings that arise in the process of distance education.

**KEYWORDS:** distance learning, education system, traditional teaching, E-learning, foreign languages, innovative methods.

Nowadays electronic distance learning systems should be as an effective addition to traditional teaching methods considered. Separately, it is worth noting the positive impact of distance learning in cases where it complements traditional learning. Already in many developed countries, distance learning is a real competitor to traditional teaching learning. Before analyzing the benefits and drawbacks of webinars, we should define the following concepts as a distance learning, an E-learning and webinar technologies.

So, distance learning is a modern method of learning being in a far distance, using computer systems. E-learning is a computer-assisted distance learning system. In essence, this is a more perfect version of the self-instruction book familiar to everyone. Electronic distance learning provides an opportunity to independently determine and vary the speed and sequence of learning, makes it possible to access training materials at a convenient time for the employee.

Webinar - a seminar held on the Internet in real time. Thus, the webinar serves to transfer knowledge and virtually unites people located in different parts of space.

In order to take part in a webinar, the topic of which is of interest, you first need to register. After registration, you will receive a web link to a page through which you can go to the webinar during it. As a participant, you do not need any special software. All interactions are carried out through a web browser, in order to hear sound, you need to connect headphones or a speaker system to your computer. When working with a mobile application to view a webinar, a mobile phone (smartphone) and broadband Internet access are enough.

If you want the presenter and other participants to be able to see you and hear your comments, you will need a webcam and a microphone when working through a personal computer, these devices are already available on a mobile phone (smartphone).

The opportunities provided by the webinar to its participants are as follows:

- view slide presentations;
- the ability to see the presenter in real time;
- audio communication through a computer (mobile phone) in real time;

- recording an online seminar and its subsequent viewing;
- an electronic board on which the presenter and listeners can leave their comments; – text chat for the exchange of information between the presenter and participants and for communication between participants;
- conducting voting and polls, when the host presents several answers to choose from and each participant marks the option that he considers the most appropriate.

The survey results are displayed on the monitor.

Let's consider the possibilities of using modern platforms for conducting webinars from a pedagogical point of view, their advantages and disadvantages.

The most popular for the educational process in educational institutions today are Webinar.ru and Mirapolis Virtual Room. As a rule, all modern webinar platforms are equipped with the same basic tools: desktop demonstration, some running applications, presentations, videos, conducting surveys, creation of group and private chats, opportunity to see the speaker, videoconferencing, monitoring the presence of participants, drawing board. Advanced features include the following: invitations, participation via mobile devices, advanced reporting for webinars, the ability to embed registration forms.

What are the advantages of using a webinar in the educational process [4]? Firstly, the speaker and his listeners have the opportunity to hold an online meeting, being in modern different places. Moreover, the teacher can organize a webinar at home.

The second significant advantage is the absence of travel costs to the venue (not to mention traffic jams, due to which offline seminar participants may be delayed, late and miss a layer of valuable information) and time saving. The third advantage is the ability to revisit and access materials.

Also, if we consider a webinar as one of the means of working with distance learning students, then it is worth emphasizing the fact that the impersonality of students disappears, there is an element of communication in real time.

So, at present, the webinar, as noted earlier, is considered an effective innovative online form of organizing educational activities, but it has some disadvantages: compared to the traditional form of education, the teacher spends more time choosing a platform, adapting the training course to the Internet form, learning how to work with the platform [5].

Moreover, the webinar does not involve two-way eye contact: the audience sees the lecturer, but the lecturer does not have the opportunity to establish visual contact with his audience, in particular, when the audience is larger than 5-10 people. Also, the disadvantages include the complexity of the webinar software, but this drawback is controversial, since many modern platforms are maximally adapted for users who use such a service for the first time.

Online webinars have some difficulties in conducting remote work for the teacher. It is difficult to control the presence of a student at a lecture, he can simply turn on the computer and leave the lesson. It is difficult to consider how well the students have learned the material, since there is no way to see the reaction of the listeners, there is no visual contact. After the seminar, it is desirable to conduct a test, a survey of students about how they evaluate the results of training. You can use the distribution of questionnaires to improve the quality of the courses. Certain statistics about the success of the seminar can be obtained by noting the attendance of participants in each subsequent course.

They also note that due to the fact that a webinar is a relatively new technology used in educational activities, a teacher who is accustomed to the traditional educational process can conduct an online lecture in a completely different way, without its inherent expression and emotionality. However, it is worth noting

that this shortcoming is not permanent, as over time the teacher adapts to the new form of conducting classes and feels comfortable.

For the teacher, this form of education has many means and tools that facilitate the learning process. Distance learning online requires minimal costs from it. Having understood what a webinar is, it becomes clear how low the cost of such training is. You can simultaneously transfer knowledge and perform practical work with students. Online classes are very convenient for students. We can say about the webinar that such training requires minimal material costs and allows you not to break away from the main activity. Quality training can be obtained from professionals located in any part of the world [6, 19].

Thus, the use of webinars in the modern educational process has its advantages: low cost and high learning efficiency.

Currently, this Internet technology is being introduced as a resource for distance education or self-education. The number of teachers and students who have learned about what a webinar is and appreciate the advantages of distance online education is rapidly increasing. It is hoped that such training will be applied in many educational institutions.

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