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The Importance of Self-Education in Developing Integrated Skills in Second Language Learning

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Abstract: This article discusses the development of skills in language learning without any instructor. Due to limited class time, students need a lot of time to practice and practice the target language in class. Therefore, it allows students to study outside the classroom at their own pace and according to their individual needs. According to many statistics, the results of independent learning of students are higher than those of students studying at school. In addition, self-study helps beginners to develop language learners without a teacher and some effective methods and some characteristics that independent learners should have are analyzed.

Key words: Effective methods, integrated skills, characteristics, independent learners, strategies for developing, native speaker, pronunciation, communication, and experience.

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, English language learning is proliferating globally. Learning a foreign language requires much time, experience, effort, and awareness of the culture of the language being studied. Learners can acquire knowledge, develop it as a skill, and apply it. Moreover, learning a language is not only about learning the grammar of a language but also about four essential skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) and learning a new culture and nation. Students learning a language should master it both in and out of the classroom, practice more with friends, and strengthen their communication and language skills independently.

Furthermore, there are some reasons for learning the English language by distance. One of them is to visit abroad to study, such as taking a master's degree or PhD. However, many learners are engaged in working or studying for a whole day. As a result, they require study individually. The second main result is to create a future career. If students are businessmen or businesspeople in the future, they may require translators during formal meetings. In addition, learners can give answers to questions or translate letters or text which their partners left if they know this language.

Reasons and goals for learning English based on self-teaching

There are some principal reasons why people prefer to study independently without going to classes, and their reasons are the same. Firstly, according to research by Suzie Miller, the director of Public engagement, students usually go abroad to study and work, to be more precise, to live better and gain life experience to develop financially or educationally and become independent. Students are only sometimes hired by tutors because there are several disadvantages to doing so. First, they are forced to study abroad without a teacher or instructor. Secondly, as Sergei Logvinenk said, many students do not have the skills to communicate with native speakers. That is why they face various problems related to communication skills. Because teachers usually need more time to work with each student. Finally, the last one, businesspeople have to learn these skills independently for their careers to



communicate individually for various meetings, partners and guests from abroad. One of the crucial reasons why other professionals learn a foreign language by self-study is the lack of ESP teachers. They may have sufficient knowledge in their fields or teaching methods, but they must explain the scientific and professional terms within some professions. That is why they prefer to do research and self-learning. Also, if learners have learned the language and can communicate independently, they feel free from translators.

Learning English with and without instructors

According to Kristine Balgacha, a language teacher is a professional who helps students develop and find their place in life, takes them under their wing and generally guides learners towards their goals. Learning with teachers is more effective using strategies and methods used in higher education classrooms. Therefore, it is necessary to pay attention to how teachers treat their students in the classroom, how well they master the lessons and how well they complete homework assignments because the failure of students can depend on the teacher. Also, the teacher is more experienced than the student. Since the instructor knows what resources and materials are most valuable and necessary for the students, classroom discussions are the best way to develop critical skills.

On the other hand, independent learning allows learners to study outside the classroom without direct instructor supervision. Students can discuss the topic and share the information. If students want to learn a language, there are many options. More specifically, they can learn from video lessons on social networks like Facebook, Instagram, and Telegram. As helpful as these methods are for language learners, they will never be as effective as having a one-on-one tutor online. According to research by Trent Erwin, learners can teach themselves English in several ways. Students may encounter some difficulties in learning English independently, but it is not impossible to learn a second language without instructions. There are many ways to improve their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills - even if students do not have anyone to help them practice. Second language learners can use various sources to learn about the lives of local people, understand how culture is essential in speech, and improve their language skills. As Jana Angeles points out, there are three productive ways:

- 1. Self-education helps motivate independent learners and offers several advantages to taking an online course. One of them is that it encourages learners to start and finish work at their chosen time. In addition, this study method is more effective than others, helping learners do their research or assignments and find information to help them in their studies.
- 2. One of the fundamental merits of self-teaching is that beginners can learn at their own pace. They can schedule the online course according to their schedule or use the site at their convenience. As a result, learners will have more time to practice, and they can gain more knowledge through self-learning.

Different strategies for developing language skills on study-teaching

Books/magazines. The benefits of reading books are significant for teachers, students, and learners who want to develop their skills through self-study. Reading English is integral to language learning because it helps them develop other related skills like grammar, vocabulary, and writing. In addition, reading allows language learners to explore topics they love and stories that engage them (John Bostock, 2021). Learners' reading skills are essential to their success as they will allow them to access the breadth of the curriculum and develop their communication and language skills. In addition, reading can be a fun and helpful activity for readers, opening doors to all kinds of new worlds. "If practised correctly, reading books and novels suiting their level can accelerate vocabulary building, improve grammar, and sharpen writing. Although reading does not directly impact their spoken English, it can to some extent improve it through better vocabulary, reading out loud, and a deeper knowledge base." (Anil, 2022).

Music with subtitles. From an international research survey, Mandy Stefanakis and Robin Stevens identified some benefits of music in self-study teaching. First, music prepares the brain for learning. Musical activities and games trigger activity in many brain parts and have comprehensive



developmental benefits. Moreover, music is the most effective and valuable way to develop speaking and listening language skills for learners who prefer self-study. Most of the students of our university (Fergana State University, Uzbekistan) have well-developed speaking and communication skills. That is because they regularly listen to music on the way to and from school or on the way to rest. That is why their speaking or communication skills and listening skills are highly improved.

Movies/cartoons/videos. As artist Jamie Johnson points out, language researchers have been using movies and cartoons in their classrooms for decades, and there are several reasons why they are excellent teaching and learning tools. One of the most important results is, nowadays, millions of the young generation are becoming lazy. For this reason, they do not prefer to commute to the library, and most of them think that if students go there, they may spend more time on this. That is why learners choose to study by distance. Secondly, motivation is a heart for learning a second language acquisition. Films and TV shows play an integral role in student's life, so bringing them into the language classroom makes perfect sense. Films, as a motivator, also make the language learning process more impressive and exciting. The last one is pronunciation and spelling. According to the research by Ad Ashraf Uzzaman and Sujit Roy, the main results of many studies have shown that watching movies and cartoons in English positively improves listening and speaking skills. Watching English movies and videos can also improve correct pronunciation and comprehension. Also, this method is valuable and exciting. English movies on different topics also help to increase vocabulary and correct pronunciation. According to many experts, all these effects can have long-term adverse effects on the audience. That is, it creates a sufficient ground for them to increase their selfconfidence. Those who watch it regularly can get additional benefits. It should also be emphasized that most students who prefer self-study say that they have developed various skills by watching movies and cartoons with subtitles.

Podcasts. Podcasts can be a great and effective way to improve a beginner's English. They can be their primary source of listening comprehension if students who prefer self-learning use them as correctly and wisely as possible. Podcasts teach how to develop not only listening comprehension but also other skills. It also helps to make "passive" words and phrases "active" in our speech. As written by Shiva Verma, listening to different podcasts and conversations allows understanding and learning several things. Podcasts are elementary to listen to and only require a little effort or work. Learners can listen to it at any time. They may encounter new words as they continue listening. However, it is not scary; they can make sense out of context. Furthermore, listening to podcasts helps to improve not only listening but also speaking.

Conclusion

In general, these four skills cannot be separated from each other. Students can learn a foreign language without a teacher and face various difficulties along the way. Additionally, although studying with a teacher has several benefits, self-study is more effective for students. Because learners know their shortcomings and which skills to improve more, it is not enough to study with a teacher to achieve high results or to develop all skills equally, that is, students themselves. They should find enough time for practice and analysis. There needs to be more knowledge and skills in the classroom to form language skills for sharing thoughts and ideas, although a friendly atmosphere is created there. They should use self-study regularly to achieve the results they want. The learning process is different for all students. Also, the most important thing is always to continue learning and researching. Everyone should find their interest and path. They may have a million reasons not to learn English, but they have to find an appropriate reason to learn. They need to learn how to find the key to the solution.

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