



Advantages and Disadvantages of Distance Education in Foreign Language Learning

Damirova Gulshoda Utkir kizi

Teacher at the Tashkent State Pedagogical University named after Nizami,
gulshoda1403@mail.ru

Abstract: This article touches on the current topic of distance and blended learning in learning English. Particular attention is paid to the difficulties that arise when switching to online learning. The author examines the advantages and disadvantages of distance and blended teaching of English at a non-linguistic university.

Key words: distance learning, online learning, blended learning, English language, hybrid learning, advantages, disadvantages.

Today, with the development of mass communications, the need for learning English remotely has increased. Distance learning is the development of a large number of topics and subjects using information technology [1]. The basis of the educational process during this training is the purposeful and controlled independent work of the student, who is able to study in a place convenient for him, according to an individual schedule, and at the same time have with him a set of special teaching aids and an agreed upon possibility of contact with the teacher by phone, e-mail, as well as “in person”. The capabilities of distance learning technology make it possible to successfully use them to train almost all categories of students, however, at the present stage, distance learning is most widespread in the following areas:

The emergence of a distance learning form has entailed the need to develop and implement distance educational technologies. This term refers to educational technologies implemented mainly using information and telecommunication technologies with indirect (at a distance) interaction between the student and the teacher. There are a large number of types of this training: this includes conversational form, question and answer, solving various types of tests, video conferencing, as well as independent study of video materials.

Currently, there is no single accepted definition of distance learning; various interpretations and views on this phenomenon are proposed, which reflects the diversity of approaches to its understanding. According to the definition given by Evgenia Semenovna Polat, author of research on teaching foreign languages, distance learning is the interaction of a teacher and students with each other at a distance, reflecting all the components inherent in the educational process (goals, content, methods, organizational forms, and teaching aids) and implemented using Internet technologies or other means that provide interactivity. E.S. Polat emphasizes that the means of implementing all components of distance learning have a specific impact on each of the components of learning, determining their selection, structuring and organization [3]. This definition emphasizes that distance learning is one of the forms of learning and its main difference from traditional learning is that students among themselves, as well as students and the teacher, are separated spatially, and physical interaction with each other is impossible. Despite the possibilities of interaction through distance learning and control, this difference entails a number of challenges that both teachers and students

face when switching to distance learning. Since distance learning is a relatively new learning model in which the student is at the center, and the teaching activity is based on collaboration, teaching methods, as well as the types and methods of teacher interaction with students require serious revision.

The most obvious and common problem when switching to online is technical difficulties that cannot be completely avoided even with high computer literacy of the teacher and students. Technical difficulties may arise throughout the lesson and are not always predictable. Technical problems include the lack of Internet or low Internet connection speed, the need for regular software updates, and others. In these conditions, it is important to teach students special vocabulary related to computer terminology. They help you better understand instructions, explain problems that arise, and avoid switching to Russian. These phrases are different from the usual vocabulary in a traditional classroom and may be especially relevant in groups with a low level of English proficiency.

Another difficulty in the process of distance learning is the changing roles of students and teachers, as well as the emergence of new roles. When studying remotely, a student is required to have a much higher degree of self-motivation, self-discipline and self-control. Distance learning involves some form of autonomous learning, that is, students learn to learn independently of the teacher. The role of the teacher as the only source of knowledge has long disappeared. With the transition to distance learning, the teacher begins to act as a distance learning administrator and is responsible for ensuring the functioning of the system at a technical level, which requires additional time, as well as a high level of computer literacy. Teachers need to adapt to new technologies, acquire and develop new skills and knowledge about technology, and even sometimes reconsider their pedagogical views. Another new role for a teacher is that of an educational process designer. This is due to the need to create an additional package of materials, since the training course for online education should be as interactive as possible, which naturally entails time spent on preparing materials. It is also worth mentioning the roles of a facilitator in helping to organize the educational process, manager, moderator, consultant and others.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of distance learning foreign languages in general? Probably the main advantage of distance learning is convenience. You study where and when it is convenient, plus you do not waste time on the road, which is very important for large cities with heavy traffic. Secondly, you can, at your own discretion, devote more or less time and attention to some issues. The third advantage is that distance learning, in particular the on-line form, provides technical capabilities that are more difficult and expensive to implement in face-to-face learning. But perhaps the most interesting thing about distance learning of foreign languages is the disadvantages.

The main disadvantage of distance learning is the flip side of the number one advantage - convenience. The comfort and freedom of distance learning requires a greater degree of self-discipline than face-to-face learning. In full-time education, there are additional motivating factors in the form of mandatory attendance at classes and the opinions of those around you: the teacher and fellow students, if you study in a group.

Therefore, some people give up halfway and begin to think that all distance learning in general is sheer nonsense. But the point is not in distance learning, but in the attitude towards it. If they "invested" knowledge into you, but you yourself don't really need it, it will still be of little use... Such semi-forced investment, and often the driving in of knowledge, can only have results in childhood. This trick usually doesn't work with adults (we won't take into account cases where it's literally a matter of life and death). Decide for yourself: do you want it? Are you ready to devote time and attention and how much?[1].

Any training should be treated not only as the development of certain skills or volume of information. Learning is first and foremost development. And in the case of distance learning, you should remember that it requires additional development of responsibility and self-discipline. For some, distance learning is a kind of challenge, a test of willpower. Some people actually get drawn into the process for a long time, quitting and resuming it several times. Many people, unexpectedly

for themselves, quickly get results, and... also stop studying. True, then they realize that they want more, and start studying again.

Mobility today is one of the familiar features of our lives. Mobility in learning languages is also important for many! And individual CLP (Classification, Labeling and Packaging) remote programs provide you with a similar opportunity, which you just have to take advantage of. Another good aspect of CLP distance program is their versatility, which allows them to be combined with any methods and methods of learning. Distance CLP programs develop skills, and you can practice these skills and gain knowledge anywhere: with a teacher, in a conversation club, in the country of the language you are learning, on social networks or on free language resources. Simply with the help of the CLP distance program, you will be much more aware and efficient in these processes, which means that your labor, time and money costs will be invested wisely.

And there is also blended learning, this form of learning combines traditional and distance learning. Despite all the previously mentioned advantages of distance learning, it is unlikely to be able to 100% replace and displace traditional learning, since its main disadvantage is the inability to develop social skills in a real environment. But this form of education, having demonstrated its strengths, cannot disappear from our lives. Thus, having compared and analyzed the main advantages and disadvantages of online learning, we can come to the conclusion that the most effective is blended learning - an educational concept that combines traditional learning and traditional methods with distance and online methods and current technologies. In other words, the student receives part of the knowledge face-to-face, communicating with students and teachers live, and remotely, using modern information technologies. I.A. Malinina, based on her experience of using blended English language learning technologies at a university, defines blended learning as a combination of “live” learning with learning using Internet resources, allowing for joint activities of participants in the educational process. Learning is considered blended if from 30 to 79% of learning time is spent online [2].

By using a mixed format in teaching English to students at a non-linguistic university, it was possible to maintain the usual face-to-face classes and at the same time introduce online technologies, which had a positive impact on the motivation and performance of students. As a result of the study, the following positive results of using the hybrid form of education were identified:

- higher results on the final test;
- widespread use of various forms of interaction between students and students with the teacher;
- increasing the degree of student satisfaction with the learning process and motivation;
- increased student involvement in the educational process;
- higher attendance;
- the final summary of knowledge was carried out in person; thus, it was possible to evaluate the results as objectively as possible;
- since most of the time was allocated to traditional learning, students were fully able to develop social skills and maintain psychological comfort;
- The use of online resources brought the effect of novelty and aroused interest in the educational process.

During the implementation of hybrid learning, it was concluded that this type of learning leads to a more rational use of time allocated for face-to-face classes, the teacher can focus on more dynamic and meaningful exercises, and more time can be allocated to communication exercises and analysis of complex issues. The online component can be used effectively as a practice of material covered in the classroom or serve as an introduction and preparation for a new topic.

The main advantages of blended learning also include flexibility, openness, and individual approach to students. A student survey showed that the majority of students support the hybrid learning format, which confirms a high degree of satisfaction with this type of learning.

In conclusion, I would like to note that distance learning is not only a relatively new type of education, but also one of the most promising. Having a number of difficulties, such as technical problems, psychological factors, difficulties with assessing knowledge and maintaining attention, online education also has a number of advantages compared to traditional ones. Thus, if it is impossible to completely replace the offline format of classes with online ones, the idea of moving to hybrid or funny learning seems to be the most effective and convenient.

References

1. Akhmedova M. Peculiarities of teaching Russian as a foreign language in the online system in Uzbekistan //Solution of social problems in management and economy. – 2023. – T. 2. – №. 10. – C. 12-17.
2. Malinina I.A. Application of technology of blended learning of a foreign language in universities. Modern scientific research and innovation. 2023; No.1. Pp.147-158.
3. Polat E.S. Distance learning: textbook. Edition-3. Moscow: Vldos Publishing Center, 2022.