

METHODS AND PRINCIPLES OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING**Abduraxmonova Zilola Yoqubjon qizi****Scientific advisor: Jizzakh branch of the National University of Uzbekistan
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Abstract: This article analyzes the main methods and principles of foreign language teaching. It highlights traditional and modern approaches, including grammar-translation, direct, audiolingual, and communicative methods. The paper also discusses key teaching principles such as consciousness, consistency, visibility, and communicative orientation. The study emphasizes the importance of applying effective methods and principles to improve learners' language competence and communication skills.

Keywords: foreign language teaching, teaching methods, teaching principles, communicative approach, language learning.

This study explores how learners in the modern era of globalization, foreign language learning has become an essential component of education systems worldwide. The ability to communicate in a foreign language enhances cultural awareness, academic mobility, and professional opportunities. Therefore, effective foreign language teaching requires the use of appropriate teaching methods and pedagogical principles. This article examines the main methods and principles of foreign language teaching and analyzes their role in improving the quality of language education.

Methods of Foreign Language Teaching: Teaching methods refer to systematic and scientifically grounded ways of organizing the interaction between teachers and learners to achieve specific educational objectives. The choice of method plays a crucial role in determining the effectiveness of foreign language instruction, as different methods emphasize different aspects of language learning such as grammar, communication, accuracy, or fluency. Over time, various foreign language teaching methods have been developed in response to changing educational needs and linguistic theories.

Grammar-Translation Method: The Grammar-Translation Method is one of the earliest approaches to foreign language teaching and originated in the teaching of classical languages such as Latin and Greek. This method focuses on the explicit teaching of grammatical rules and the translation of written texts between the native language and the target language. Vocabulary is usually learned through bilingual word lists, and accuracy in grammar is highly emphasized.

Advantages:

- Develops learners' reading comprehension and writing skills.
- Enhances understanding of grammatical structures.
- Useful for learners who need to read academic or literary texts.

Limitations:

- Neglects speaking and listening skills.
- Provides little opportunity for communicative practice.
- Often results in passive learning and low learner motivation.

Direct Method: The Direct Method emerged as a reaction against the Grammar-Translation Method. It emphasizes learning a foreign language in a natural way, similar to first language acquisition. The use of the mother tongue is avoided, and meaning is conveyed through demonstration, visual aids, gestures, and real-life situations. Grammar is taught inductively, and oral communication is central to instruction.

Advantages:

- Improves pronunciation and speaking fluency.
- Encourages thinking directly in the target language.
- Creates an immersive language-learning environment.

Limitations:

- Requires highly proficient teachers.
- May be difficult to apply in large classes.
- Abstract concepts can be challenging to explain without translation.

Audiolingual Method: The Audiolingual Method is based on behaviorist learning theory and structural linguistics. It views language learning as habit formation, achieved through repetition and reinforcement. Learners practice dialogues, drills, and pattern exercises to master grammatical structures and pronunciation. Errors are minimized to prevent the formation of incorrect habits.

Advantages:

- Develops accurate pronunciation and grammatical patterns.
- Strengthens listening and speaking skills.
- Effective for beginners in controlled learning environments.

Limitations:

- Limits creative and spontaneous language use.
- Overemphasizes memorization and mechanical practice.
- Learners may struggle to use language in real-life situations.

Communicative Language Teaching: Communicative Language Teaching is a learner-centered approach that focuses on developing communicative competence rather than merely grammatical knowledge. Language is taught as a tool for meaningful communication, and learners engage in activities such as role-plays, information-gap tasks, and real-life simulations. Fluency and meaning are prioritized, while errors are viewed as a natural part of the learning process.

Advantages:

- Enhances learners' confidence and motivation.
- Develops real-life communication skills.
- Encourages interaction and learner autonomy.

Limitations:

- May result in grammatical inaccuracies if not balanced properly.
- Requires careful lesson planning and classroom management.
- Assessment of communicative competence can be challenging.

Interactive Methods: Interactive methods are closely related to communicative approaches and emphasize active learner involvement. These methods include role-playing, group work, discussions, debates, problem-solving activities, and project-based learning. Learners collaborate, exchange ideas, and use language creatively in meaningful contexts.

Advantages:

- Promotes critical thinking and collaboration skills.
- Increases learner engagement and motivation.
- Creates a student-centered learning environment.

Limitations:

- Time-consuming to plan and implement.
- Classroom management may be challenging in large groups.
- Some learners may participate less actively than other

Principles of Foreign Language Teaching: Teaching principles serve as theoretical and practical guidelines for organizing the learning process effectively. The following principles are fundamental in foreign language teaching:

- **The principle of consciousness and activity** – learners should actively and consciously participate in the learning process.
- **The principle of consistency and systematicity** – language material should be introduced gradually and logically.
- **The principle of visualization** – visual, audio, and multimedia tools enhance comprehension and retention.
- **The principle of practical orientation** – language learning should be connected to real-life communication needs.
- **The principle of individual approach** – learners’ abilities, interests, and proficiency levels should be considered.

In conclusion, the effective teaching of foreign languages depends on the appropriate selection and integration of teaching methods and principles. Modern communicative and interactive approaches contribute to the development of learners’ communicative competence and motivation. At the same time, adherence to pedagogical principles ensures the systematic and effective organization of the teaching process. Combining traditional and modern methods allows teachers to meet diverse learner needs and achieve better learning outcomes.

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