

# Development Of Professional Linguistic Competence Of Lawyers In A Bilingual Environment Through Independent Work

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**Abstract:** This article examines the organization of independent work for law students during professionally oriented Russian language instruction, taking into account a bilingual environment (Uzbek is their native language). A set of methodological recommendations aimed at developing the linguistic and professional competence of future legal professionals is proposed. Specific forms and methods of independent work are analyzed, revealing their role in developing self-education skills and successful communication in Russian.

**Keywords:** Independent work, bilingualism, Russian language, legal education, methodology, professional competence, self-education, Uzbek-speaking students.

**Introduction:** In the era of higher education reform in Uzbekistan, the primary goal of law schools is not only to train highly qualified specialists capable of assimilating and applying scientific knowledge, but also to develop communicative competence in Russian—the language of interethnic communication, academic debate, and professional activity. This type of education is particularly important in a bilingual environment, where students' native language is Uzbek and Russian is learned as a second language, serving as a tool for legal professional development.

In today's world, training that promotes self-development, self-education, and personal fulfillment for future professionals is becoming a priority. The ability to independently acquire new knowledge, critically analyze it, and creatively apply it is becoming a prerequisite for a successful legal career.

Independent work in Russian language by law students plays a key role in the educational process: it not only ensures the depth and depth of learning, but also develops independent research skills, communication skills, critical thinking, and information literacy.

For Uzbek-speaking law students, learning Russian poses a number of additional challenges:

- the need to overcome the interlingual interference barrier arising from the differences in the grammatical, lexical, orthographic and stylistic systems of the Uzbek and Russian languages;
- development of skills in translating basic legal terms and concepts, as well as their correct use;
- development of the ability to conduct a comparative analysis of linguistic constructions and make a conscious choice of lexical and syntactic means when presenting professional topics;
- supporting motivation to study Russian not only as a means of everyday communication, but also as a tool for professional growth.

## Methodological recommendations for organizing independent work in a bilingual environment

1. Formation of a language base through interference exercises

Conduct tasks aimed at identifying and overcoming errors associated with the transfer of Uzbek grammatical or syntactic constructions into Russian speech.

Example: analysis of typical errors in the translation of terms, compilation of glossaries (vocabularies) in both languages, collective work on educational cases.

## 2. In-depth work with professional literature

Organize a systematic reading of legal texts in Russian, followed by abstracting, annotating, reviewing, and comparative analysis with Uzbek sources.

### **Recommended:**

- create concept maps from the texts read;
- highlight key terms and establish logical connections between them;
- generate tables of comparison of categories in Russian and Uzbek languages.

## 3. Stimulating self-education through project activities

Develop mini-projects based on real-world legal issues, with subsequent presentation of the results in Russian in the form of a report, presentation, or essay.

### **METHODS**

- preparation of slide presentations on the role of law, the structure of government bodies, and analysis of legal reforms;
- joint preparation of legal cases with analysis of terminology in two languages;
- writing and defending abstracts, with an emphasis on independent search for sources.

## 4. Constant expansion of the terminological dictionary

Maintain individual and group dictionaries of legal terms, separately identifying synonyms, antonyms, and frequently used clichés for professional written and oral speech.

## 5. Inclusion of tasks for semantic processing of information

Provide tasks that require students not only to find the necessary information from the source, but also to interpret, multiply, and creatively process it (translate, adapt, condense, criticize).

## 6. Development of presentation skills and public scientific communication

### **Recommended:**

- prepare reports and oral presentations on current legal issues;
- prepare scripts for legal debates;
- organize discussions and round tables in Russian.

## 7. Integration of ICT and e-learning tools

Use electronic platforms, legal databases, and thematic forums to complete independent work and receive feedback from the instructor (discuss reports, edit texts, and peer review).

## 8. Encouraging research activities among students

Training in techniques for independently searching and

analyzing scientific sources, formatting scientific papers according to academic writing standards in Russian, and publishing abstracts and articles in student collections.

### **Specific forms of independent work**

- Analytical reading of scientific and journalistic articles, their comparative analysis with Uzbek materials.
- Translation of legal texts from Russian to Uzbek and vice versa, with commentary on the structural features of terminology.
- Writing essays and papers on topics such as "The Role of Law in Society," "Legal Culture," "The Judicial System of the Republic of Uzbekistan," etc., with clear argumentation and a logical structure.
- Collective preparation of presentations and reports with subsequent defense in a study group.
- Development of individual research projects on legal proceedings, analysis of court decisions using comparative analysis of linguistic forms.
- Compiling detailed reviews and feedback on the work of fellow students, adhering to the standards of scientific and professionally oriented stylistics.
- Participation in web quests and legal debates in Russian, which contributes to the development of public scientific communication skills.

### **Evaluation of the results of independent work**

Russian language course work programs should include a section of methodological instructions with a detailed description of the goals, objectives, and planned results of independent work.

For Uzbek-speaking students, the goals of independent work are:

- development of speech skills (introduction and use of legal terminology),
- mastering models of academic communication, basic skills of legal writing,
- the ability to interpret and critically understand professional texts.

### **Expected results include:**

- the ability to correctly use lexical forms and syntactic constructions,
- demonstration of the level of development of communicative competence in Russian,
- the ability to construct one's own speech works in a reasoned and argumentative manner,
- deep understanding of the content and structure of professional texts,
- distinguishing the meanings of terms and their

correct use in given contexts.

#### **Recommendations for supporting bilingualism**

- Include tasks on comparative analysis of Uzbek and Russian language tools;
- Develop metalinguistic awareness (explain the differences between concepts, grammatical parallels and differences);
- Create conditions for the integration of the native language into educational projects (papers, essays, reports with a bilingual structure);
- Encourage pair and small group work with students of varying levels of Russian language proficiency and organize peer learning.

Thus, the introduction of a bilingual approach to organizing independent work, the formation of a comprehensive system of methodological recommendations, and consideration of the specific features of the linguistic development of Uzbek-speaking students can significantly improve their level of professional competence and linguistic readiness for work in the legal field.

Comprehensive independent work ensures depth and versatility in education, fostering self-development, information literacy, and effective communication skills in future specialists, which guarantees their competitiveness in the modern labor market and in the scientific community.

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