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METHODOLOGY FOR DEVELOPING LANGUAGE SKILLS IN PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

As the student's language skills develop, they grow into an intellectually advanced and well-rounded generation. The key factor contributing to this development is the teacher, who plays a pivotal role in shaping the student's ability to communicate effectively and think critically. This article discusses the development of language skills in the subject of the native language and outlines the principles of teaching the native language. It also highlights modern methodologies and innovative approaches that enhance the teaching process, emphasizing the importance of integrating oral and written communication skills. Furthermore, the article addresses the significance of fostering cultural and linguistic sensitivity among students, encouraging creativity, and promoting a deep understanding of the artistic and functional aspects of language.

KEYWORDS

Language, literary language norms, speech, communication, teaching principles, linguistic sensitivity, creativity, oral and written skills.

INTRODUCTION

Language plays a vital role in shaping and expressing thoughts, impressions, emotions, and feelings. It serves as a means of communication among members of society. The more advanced this means, the clearer and more impactful the expression of thought becomes. The necessity of deeply studying the native

language in school arises from these fundamental functions of language.

The native language – skills and competencies in reading and writing – is a crucial condition and tool for students' academic work. A child must first and

foremost learn their native language while mastering reading skills, as the native language is the key to knowledge and intellect. Moreover, the native language serves as a medium for other subjects; history, natural sciences, and other disciplines are studied with the help of the native language. Thus, the native language plays a significant role in the overall development of the child and in fostering interest in knowledge and work.

Language is an essential tool of education. A child who reads literary works, newspapers, and magazines cultivates the best qualities within themselves and acquires cultural communication skills. Since the native language occupies a central position in primary school, it is necessary to nurture interest and love for the native language in every student. Native language lessons in primary grades encompass the following activities:

1. Reading, writing, studying grammatical material, observations, and developing oral and written speech in connection with students' social activities.
2. Teaching literacy to first-grade students, i.e., elementary reading and writing skills, and transforming these skills into competencies.
3. Mastering literary language norms, including orthographic and punctuation literacy, correct pronunciation (orthophony), and acquiring elements of style and rhetoric.
4. Studying theoretical materials in grammar, phonetics, and lexicology to form an understanding of language.

5. Introducing students to samples of literary, scientific-popular, and other texts through reading and grammar lessons, fostering the ability to comprehend artistic works.

All these tasks are addressed in primary school native language lessons and are reflected in the curriculum for these grades. The theory of knowledge serves as the methodological foundation for teaching the native language. The practical significance of methodology lies in ensuring that students fully understand and utilize the richness of language.

To achieve this, the following points must be considered:

- Language is an essential means of communication in human life.
- Society cannot exist without language.
- The importance of language as a communication tool is continuously growing.
- The school's task is to develop language into a refined tool of communication and interaction.
- Language is a means of rational and logical cognition, facilitating generalization, reasoning, and conclusions through linguistic units and forms.
- Language and speech are closely connected with thought processes, enabling the expression of ideas.

Teaching principles of the native language:

1. **Language material as the foundation:** The elements forming oral and written speech are

fundamental components, and their correct acquisition is a key principle of education. These elements include the sound system, word structures, morphemes, syntactic units, and their interconnections. Mastering these elements comprehensively is essential for developing students' speech skills. Proper development of speech organs enhances pronunciation, articulation, and fluency in oral expression. Neglecting this process may lead to phonetic errors, adversely affecting orthographic literacy. Hence, attention to the growth and exercise of speech organs is vital in language teaching.

2. Raising sensitivity to language: This principle emphasizes understanding the structure, laws, and nuances of language as a complex phenomenon for effective mastery and application. Through speech, reading, and listening, children systematically assimilate language material and begin to comprehend its internal rules, fostering sensitivity to linguistic phenomena. Sensitivity to language enables students to identify, understand, and integrate linguistic structures, fostering their ability to recognize relationships between different language layers.

3. Evaluating the expressiveness of speech: This principle involves understanding not only grammatical norms but also the artistic and stylistic potential of language. It encourages students to develop cultural speech habits and understand the emotional and figurative functions of language. The principle helps students select appropriate linguistic tools and use them effectively in context, enhancing their ability to express content with clarity, emotional richness, and impact.

4. Prioritizing oral language before written language: This principle aligns with the natural basis of

language learning, where children first acquire oral communication skills before transitioning to written expression. Mastering oral speech lays the foundation for successful development of written skills, as clarity and logical consistency in writing depend on proficiency in oral expression.

Integrating oral and written speech development principles in the teaching process significantly enhances students' linguistic abilities, fostering independent thinking and communication culture. Approaches such as prioritizing oral speech, evaluating expressiveness, and fostering sensitivity contribute to developing clear, impactful, and meaningful communication skills in students. The use of literary works and modern interactive methods are key factors in effectively organizing this process.

Modern education emphasizes not only teaching grammatical rules but also cultivating creativity, aesthetic taste, and social communication skills in students. Diverse textbooks, innovative methods, and interactive lessons nurture students' interest in learning and cultural speech habits.

Teachers must pay special attention to developing oral speech by organizing activities involving listening, speaking, and discussions. Expressive reading, retelling, and role-playing broaden opportunities for developing students' cultural speech habits. This process enhances vocabulary, encourages free expression of thoughts, and fosters successful participation in communication.

Studying and developing the expressiveness of language requires the use of literary works and didactic materials. These resources help students understand the emotional and figurative meanings of words,

enabling them to consciously use artistic devices in their own speech.

Coordinating the development of oral and written speech is an essential part of the educational process. Tasks such as writing essays and retelling texts are necessary to effectively transfer oral skills to written communication. These exercises teach students to articulate their thoughts clearly and logically.

Incorporating innovative and interactive methods in modern education holds great importance. Information and communication technologies, multimedia tools, and interactive activities increase students' interest in lessons. These methods effectively enhance students' speech culture and language skills.

To improve teachers' professional qualifications, regular training sessions, seminars, and masterclasses should be organized. These initiatives help educators acquire and apply new approaches and methodologies in modern education.

Additionally, systematic activities must be organized to improve pronunciation, grammatical literacy, and speech culture in students. Teaching meaningful and impactful speech should be an integral part of the learning process.

By implementing these recommendations, students' interest in their native language can be increased, fostering creative and independent thinking skills, and further improving the effectiveness of the educational process. Efficient teaching of the native language serves as a strong foundation for the intellectual and cultural development of future generations.

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