

Methodology for Using A Competency-Based Approach in Organizing Lessons for Future English Teachers

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Abstract: The competency-based approach has gained significant attention in modern education, particularly in the training of future English teachers. This article discusses the methodology for implementing a competency-based approach in lesson organization, emphasizing practical strategies, assessment methods, and student-centered learning. Furthermore, it highlights the role of linking theoretical knowledge with practical application, ensuring that future English teachers develop the necessary competencies for effective teaching. Additionally, this article discusses the integration of educational technology, the importance of formative assessments, and the role of experiential learning in preparing teachers for real-world classroom environments.

Keywords: Competency-based approach, future English teachers, lesson organization, language teaching methodology, communicative competence, pedagogical strategies, active learning, assessment methods, task-based learning, professional development.

Introduction: In recent years, the competency-based approach has become a central theme in education reform, focusing on equipping students with practical skills and knowledge applicable to real-world situations. This approach is particularly relevant for training future English teachers, as it fosters their ability to communicate effectively, adapt to diverse classroom environments, and implement innovative teaching strategies. In this article, we will discuss the methodology for applying a competency-based approach to lesson organization, considering various instructional techniques, assessment strategies, and the integration of digital tools. Furthermore, we will explore the challenges of implementing this approach and potential solutions to address them.

To begin with, lesson planning is a crucial aspect of competency-based education. Rather than focusing solely on theoretical knowledge, lessons should be designed to develop specific skills, such as language proficiency, classroom management, and pedagogical adaptability. Moreover, lesson objectives should be

clearly defined in terms of competencies rather than traditional content-based outcomes. For instance, instead of stating that students will learn about past tenses, a competency-based lesson objective might emphasize students' ability to use past tenses in real-life communication [3, 183-192].

Additionally, lesson planning should incorporate active learning methods, such as project-based learning, collaborative tasks, and problem-solving activities. These methods encourage students to apply their knowledge in meaningful contexts, reinforcing their ability to think critically and adapt their teaching techniques. Furthermore, the integration of digital tools, such as interactive language learning applications and virtual classrooms, enhances engagement and accessibility.

To ensure lessons are effective, educators should adopt differentiated instruction techniques, catering to students with varying levels of proficiency. This can include scaffolding strategies, where complex tasks are broken down into manageable components, as well as

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peer-assisted learning activities. In this way, students become active participants in the learning process, developing their teaching abilities in a supportive environment.

Another key component of competency-based education is assessment. Traditional assessments, such as multiple-choice tests, often fail to measure students' practical skills effectively. Instead, competency-based assessment should focus on performance-based evaluations, including classroom observations, teaching demonstrations, and reflective journals. These methods provide comprehensive understanding of students' abilities and progress.

Moreover, formative assessment plays a crucial role in competency-based learning. Through continuous feedback and self-assessment, students can identify areas for improvement and adjust their learning strategies accordingly. For instance, peer evaluations and portfolio assessments allow students to reflect on their teaching practices and make necessary adjustments. Furthermore, using rubrics with clearly defined competency levels helps ensure consistency in assessment and provides students with a clear understanding of expectations.

It is also essential to incorporate authentic assessment tasks that simulate real classroom scenarios. These may include designing lesson plans, conducting mock lessons, and engaging in self-reflection exercises. By applying their knowledge in practice, students are better prepared to meet the demands of real-world teaching environments [5, 222-232].

In addition, student-centered learning is a fundamental aspect of the competency-based approach. Future English teachers must be encouraged to take an active role in their learning process, which involves engaging in discussions, participating in experiential learning activities, and collaborating with peers. By doing so, they develop not only linguistic proficiency but also the ability to facilitate effective language instruction.

Moreover, mentorship and coaching play a vital role in competency development. By working closely with experienced educators, students can gain insights into effective teaching methods and classroom management strategies. Furthermore, incorporating micro-teaching sessions, where students practice delivering lessons in a controlled environment, allows them to refine their teaching techniques and build confidence.

Experiential learning is another crucial aspect of competency-based education. Students should be given opportunities to engage in internships or

teaching practicums in real classroom settings. These experiences allow them to apply theoretical knowledge in practice while receiving constructive feedback from mentors and peers.

Furthermore, technology has become an integral part of modern education, and its role in competency-based learning cannot be overlooked. Digital platforms, such as learning management systems (LMS), provide students with access to a wide range of educational resources, interactive exercises, and real-time feedback. Additionally, online collaboration tools facilitate group projects and discussions, promoting teamwork and communication skills [2, 54-65].

Blended learning approaches, which combine traditional face-to-face instruction with online learning, can further enhance the competency-based approach. By utilizing digital simulations, virtual reality tools, and online teaching platforms, students can engage in diverse learning experiences that mimic real-world teaching environments.

Despite the benefits of competency-based education, there are challenges in implementing this approach effectively. One major challenge is the resistance to change among educators who are accustomed to traditional teaching methods. To address this, professional development programs should be provided to help teachers understand and implement competency-based strategies effectively.

Another challenge is ensuring the consistency of competency assessment. Different institutions may have varying interpretations of competency-based criteria, leading to discrepancies in evaluation standards. To mitigate this, standardized competency frameworks and assessment rubrics should be developed and adopted across institutions.

Furthermore, the integration of technology in competency-based education requires access to digital resources and adequate training. Institutions should invest in technological infrastructure and provide training workshops for educators and students to maximize the benefits of digital tools in the learning process.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the competency-based approach is a highly effective methodology for organizing lessons for future English teachers. By focusing on skill development, active learning, performance-based assessment, and student-centered strategies, this approach ensures that students acquire the necessary competencies for successful teaching careers. Furthermore, integrating technology enhances the learning experience and prepares future educators for

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the digital classroom. Despite certain challenges, implementing a competency-based approach can significantly improve the quality of teacher training programs. Through mentorship, experiential learning, and authentic assessment, future English teachers can develop the competencies necessary for success in their professional careers.

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