

Methods and Strategies for Reading Comprehension in Foreign Language Learning

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Abstract: This article provides a detailed analysis of the importance of reading comprehension skills in learning a foreign language, as well as effective methods and strategies aimed at developing and enhancing this skill. Additionally, it presents practical recommendations and advanced techniques that contribute to improving reading comprehension activities.

Keywords: Foreign language, reading comprehension, skimming, scanning, method, strategy, intensive reading, context, guessing.

Introduction: In the process of learning a foreign language, one of the main language skills is reading comprehension. This skill helps learners understand texts in a foreign language correctly, quickly, and effectively. Through reading comprehension, not only is the language learned, but also culture, thinking, and language structures are assimilated.

Methods of Reading Comprehension

- Skimming (Fast Reading)

The skimming method serves to quickly understand the general meaning of a text. This method is implemented by focusing on the title, introduction, and conclusion parts of the text.

- Scanning (Reading to Find Information)

Scanning is a reading technique used to find specific information (numbers, names, places) in a text. This method is especially useful for answering questions or completing tests.

- Intensive Reading

Intensive reading is a method that requires analytical work on each sentence and word. It is effective for learning grammatical structures and new vocabulary.

- Extensive Reading

This method aims to increase interest in the foreign language through enjoyable reading. The learner adapts to the language by reading longer texts.

Strategies to Develop Reading Comprehension

- Deriving Meaning from Context

Trying to understand unfamiliar words from the context of the text increases reading effectiveness

- Prediction

Predicting what will happen before or during reading ensures the learner's active thinking.

- Question-based Reading

Developing questions about the text and searching for answers makes the reading process active and consistent.

- Drawing Conclusions (Inference)

By understanding the implicit meanings in a text, the learner achieves a high level of analytical reading.

- Summarizing and Note-taking

Writing down key points after reading and retelling them reinforces reading comprehension skills.

Practical Recommendations

- Allocate 10–15 minutes for reading daily.
- Choose texts on interesting topics.
- Use electronic dictionaries effectively.
- Read foreign language articles and stories along with their audio versions.
- Discuss or share opinions based on the text read.

CONCLUSION

In foreign language learning, reading comprehension is a crucial component of language acquisition. To develop this skill, methods such as skimming, scanning, intensive and extensive reading, and context-based strategies are considered effective. The methods and strategies discussed in this article serve to enhance learners' ability to read and comprehend in a foreign language.

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