

Techniques For Developing Reasoning And Argumentation Skills In Russian Language Lessons

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Abstract: The article analyses methodological approaches and techniques aimed at developing schoolchildren's ability to reason and argue their own opinions in oral and written speech. Particular attention is paid to the importance of these skills in practical terms. The article examines techniques for analysing texts, posing problematic questions, conducting discussions, and rhetorical exercises, as well as the role of the teacher in organising students' speech activities. The conclusion is made about the need for systematic work on the development of argumentation culture, which contributes to successful preparation for final certification and the formation of a personality ready for constructive communication in modern society.

Keywords: Russian language, reasoning, argumentation, critical thinking, discussion, communicative competence.

Introduction: Modern school sets itself the task of forming a functionally literate personality, capable of independent thinking, analysing information and arguing their own point of view. In the conditions of information society, the possession of reasoning and argumentation skills becomes the most important component of the educational process.[1].

Russian language lessons represent a unique platform for the development of these skills, as work with text, speech genres, essays and oral statements is closely connected with thinking activity. Thus, Russian language teaching goes beyond just grammatical training and acquires a personal-developmental character.[2]

Theoretical bases for the formation of reasoning and argumentation skills

Reasoning is understood as a logically structured reasoning aimed at explaining phenomena, proving the truth or falsity of a judgement. The structure of reasoning is traditionally distinguished:

- thesis (main idea);
- arguments (evidence, examples, facts);
- conclusion (generalisation).

Argumentation as a process of building evidence provides persuasiveness and logicity of speech. Possession of argumentation skills contributes not only

to the successful fulfilment of tasks of the final certification (for example, writing essays and reasoning), but also to the formation of effective communication skills in everyday life.

Practical techniques for developing reasoning and argumentation

1 Analysing a text and highlighting arguments

Working with fiction, journalistic and popular science texts gives pupils the ability to identify the author's position, notice the arguments used and assess their persuasiveness. It is useful to draw up a table "thesis - arguments - conclusion".

2. Problem posing

The teacher asks open-ended questions: "Why does the author think this way?", "What arguments support his opinion?", "Do you agree with his position?". Such tasks stimulate analytical activity and encourage pupils to formulate their own answer.[3]

3. Composition of written reasoning

Exercises for writing small essays on topical subjects ("Does a person need friendship?", "Is it possible to live without books?") form the ability to build a logical text and use examples from literature, history and personal experience.

4. Discussion and debate

Organising discussions in class promotes the

development of argumentative speech and dialogue culture. Pupils learn not only to defend their point of view, but also to respect the opinion of others. An effective form is the "round table" method, where one problem is discussed from different positions.

5. Rhetorical exercises

It is useful to offer pupils tasks:

- select arguments "for" and "against";
- identify strong and weak arguments in someone else's text;
- reorganise the reasoning, strengthening the evidence.[4]

6. Creative tasks

Essays, reviews, and oral presentations provide opportunities to apply argumentation skills in various speech genres.

Speech activity is an essential component of the learning process, as it is through speech that knowledge is acquired, concepts are formed, and thinking is developed. Modern schools focus on developing not only language skills in students, but also their ability to express their thoughts clearly, logically, and persuasively. The central figure in this process is the teacher, who creates conditions for the development of students' speech, guides their communicative activity, and corrects it.

Key aspects of the role of a teacher

1. The teacher as an organiser of speech practice

The teacher creates conditions in which each student has the opportunity to participate in speech activities:

- posing problematic questions;
- organising discussions, debates, round tables;
- using pair and group work.

2. The teacher as an example of speech culture

The teacher's speech is a model for students. Clear diction, rich vocabulary, literacy and logical presentation form students' understanding of high-quality speech.

3. The teacher as a mentor and corrector

The teacher helps students to recognise and correct speech errors, gives recommendations on how to construct oral and written statements, and teaches them how to choose arguments.

4. The teacher as a motivator

For the successful development of speech skills, students need to be internally motivated. The teacher stimulates interest through relevant topics for discussion, the inclusion of real-life situations, and creative tasks (essays, projects, oral presentations).

5. The teacher as a communication partner

In the dialogue model of teaching, the teacher acts not only as a supervisor, but also as an equal participant in communication. This creates an atmosphere of trust and encourages the free expression of thoughts.

The role of the teacher

A Russian language teacher acts not only as a source of knowledge, but also as an organiser of speech practice, creating conditions for the free and meaningful expression of students' thoughts. Their task is to motivate students to independently search for arguments, correct their reasoning, and demonstrate examples of logically structured speech.

Developing reasoning and argumentation skills in Russian language lessons is one of the key tasks of modern schools. Systematic work on developing these skills through text analysis, problem-solving tasks, discussions and rhetorical exercises ensures the growth of students' speech and communication skills, and develops critical thinking and a culture of argumentation. This not only contributes to successful exam results, but also prepares graduates for active participation in public and professional life.

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