

Чернець М. О.

к.культ, доцент кафедри іноземних мов

Київський національний університет технологій та дизайну

COMPUTER USE IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING

Learning approaches are constantly developing in line with changes in students' demands and the advancement of technology. The current stage of computer technologies enables the introduction of new modern forms and methods of language teaching to keep students engaged and learn more than two times faster than in the standard program. One of the most efficient modern trends is when traditional face to face learning is blended with the flexible and personalized nature of learning based on computer technologies.

Advanced technologies which are widely spread and easily available today can bring many advantages to both language learners and teachers. However, it is important to highlight that the teacher and the technology have separate roles which are not interchangeable, but complementary. The use of technology can complement and enhance face to face teaching, allowing the teacher to take into account the individual characteristics of students and provide them with additional individual support while learning grammar, vocabulary, etc. in or outside the classroom. Students can take their time and progress at the pace that's comfortable for them. Computerized training allows teachers to control the student's learning progress with high accuracy and objectivity which is highly important nowadays.

This opportunity is available for teachers and students at any location in the world where there is a computer, mobile phone or tablet device with Internet access.

There are a lot of effective, user-friendly applications to be used to help students and teachers. For instance, "Quizlet" an interactive app which is used to study new words and phrases with flashcards, games, and other study tools including pronunciation of words. The teacher can easily create and share the lists of words for students to learn. One more example is "English grammar lab"

by Pearson which is a three-level series that takes students from elementary to advanced level grammar through a unique blend of book, online and mobile resources. It's easy to use, offers immediate feedback, has some hints and tips, automatic grading and grammar tutor videos. There are a lot of free online placement tests which can be used to quickly identify the level of language proficiency or to test student successes.

Thus, the use of computer technology determines a number of benefits when teaching and learning a foreign language:

- individual approach;
- a comfortable interactive, engaging learning environment;
- enhancing of student's educational activity and raising the level of motivation;
- time-saving for teachers because of automated marking and progress tracking, etc.;
- use of various audiovisual means of learning (graphics, sound) to enrich and motivate learning, visual and dynamic presentation of the material.

Applying of the above mentioned technologies in the teaching process helps students to develop different skills as self-learning, decision making, critical thinking, teamwork and problem-solving.

Despite all the benefits and availability of computer technologies Ukrainian teachers experience difficulties using them for teaching foreign languages. They are often not aware of the technical possibilities of facilitating and enhancing the learning process or get frustrated because of some technical issues. The main problem here is the lack of additional training for teachers on computer programs and apps as well as some technical troubleshooting.

Thus, flexible and personalized nature of learning based on computer technologies assists face to face teaching and enhances learning increasing its efficiency and making both processes more convenient for all participants. It is highly important to understand the enormous potential of new modern forms and methods of language teaching at schools and universities nowadays.