LANGUAGE SOCIAL NETWORKS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

Annotation

This article presents new, effective ways of teaching English. Textbooks and communication with the teacher will undoubtedly always be the main source of knowledge, but there are other means of learning – social networks.

Keywords

Language social networks

Abstract

This article presents new and effective ways of teaching the English language. Without doubt, books and real communication with the teacher will always be the main source of knowledge but there are also supplementary teaching means, such as social networks.

Keywords

language learning social networks

Undoubtedly, the possibilities of the Internet and social networks in the field of teaching foreign languages are huge. The use of language social networks can contribute to the process of learning a language, make it more effective and interesting, increase the interest and personal motivation of students. Social networks continue to gain popularity and have already become the object of attention of such researchers as D. Watts, P. Erdos, A. Renyi, and S. Strogach. However, to date, the possibilities of language social networks have not been sufficiently studied.

A social network is a tool that allows users to communicate with each other [1]. In the last decade, social networks have become widespread. Standard social networks allow you to join any network, send messages, conduct a dialogue with an interlocutor on the network, reach other users through your friends.

The most common social networks are MySpace, Facebook, Vkontakte.ru and Odnoklassniki. Social networks can be classified by type by openness of access, openness of information, by specialization, by types of communication and by geography.

In addition to general social networks, there are also language-specific social networks designed specifically for learning. They allow you to learn a foreign language on your own, without direct contact with a teacher. In turn, linguistic social networks can be classified by specialization, availability of information and geographical feature [2, p. 35].

With the help of social networks, anyone can get additional useful information about the issue of interest. Information videos, forums of authors of printed publications, magazines, newspapers, educational audio and video recordings are at the disposal of students. However, when using language social networks, the role of the teacher changes significantly. If in the process of traditional training he is a mentor and the main person (according to S. Huant and H.Lew [3, p.35]), then when using language social networks, the teacher becomes only a coordinator, indirectly communicating with students. Consequently, the student's self-control, motivation and independence increase.

To help students, the teacher must correctly and competently organize the student's independent work. As a preparatory work, he can give students a list of sites that can help with the search for information, familiarize them with the principle of social networks. This kind of work

encourages students' interest in independent work, develops students' search skills, helps to identify the necessary material in the flow of various information, analyze and systematize the collected data, encourages students' interest in independent work.

Language social networks have a number of advantages: they help to improve listening skills based on sound files and multimedia tools, contribute to the growth of students' interest in the English language, allow them to implement an individual approach in the process of learning the language, help to form reading skills and abilities, work out grammar rules through a step-by-step system of exercises, improve the ability to maintain dialogues and discussions based on problematic discussion of English lesson materials, help to improve writing skills by participating in the preparation of abstracts, essays in English, allow you to replenish your vocabulary with the vocabulary of modern English [3, p.46].

The most popular language social network is Lingualeo.ru (56%), in second place - busuu.com (20%), in third place - polyglot-learn.com (8%). In addition to the above, 6% of respondents note a language social network freshlingua.com .

We want to focus on the advantages of the network Lingualeo.ru . This network is like a well-designed "simulator" of the English language. To learn a language on the web independently, you need to register on a language social network and take a test to determine the level of knowledge. After the test, the student will be presented with a program according to which he should study, thereby developing lexical, grammatical, phonetic knowledge and the ability to read and understand the material read. The trainings offered to the student warm up English from all sides: vocabulary, understanding of texts, listening comprehension, spelling. No cramming – it can be exciting and fun to train the language. Students simply rearrange words and letters, solve crosswords, watch videos of interesting, light, positive content.

The combination of texts, illustrations and sound helps to memorize the material naturally, without much effort. Complex trainings "Brainstorm", "Leo-Sprint", "Repetition" are developed taking into account scientific methods, in appearance they resemble a game more. The server is designed in such a way that it identifies the level of a potential student in various aspects of the methodology, offering him to advance to the next level. Then the student chooses the expected training time per day. By choosing the time, the server gives you to go through 5-7 exercise simulators. The lexical material in them is selected not only in accordance with your level, but depending on your character, preferences, which are revealed during testing. Of course, this increases the motivation to learn. Grammar exercises are provided on several topics, you can choose the most problematic for you by evaluating your "weaknesses". While watching the videos, you can use subtitles in Russian and English, pause at any time for you to assess the understanding of the information. As we can see, the server is well thought out and, therefore, is of great learning value [4].

Undoubtedly, the role of real communication with the teacher during training is great and it is difficult to replace it with anything, but the potential of language social networks is great: they can be used not only for independent work, but also in English lessons. Thus, the language social network is an assistant in teaching English. The teacher only needs to properly organize the independent or group work of students.

List of used literature:

1. English: Your path to success! elektr. zhurn. 2014 URL:1. http://www.engsuccess.ru (accessed 24.02.2017)

2. Grishakova E. Social networks and their classification. 2012. C.35

3. Kosyanova A. Linguistic social networks. 2011. C.46

4. What are the advantages and difficulties of using social services in the educational process? elektr.zhurn. 2011 URL: http://innatimchenko.blogspot.ru/2011/06/blog-post\_134.html (accessed 22.02.2017)