

Skype as a Method for Improving Speaking Skills in English Language Classroom

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Abstract

The article is aimed to the use of Skype technology in the teaching a foreign language in order to form and improve communicative language competence. This technology made it possible to implement a personal approach to teaching to reveal the intellectual and creative potential of students. The authors of the article noted the advantages and disadvantages of the technology. Referring to the experience of using IT technologies in practical English lessons, the authors suggested ways to solve the difficulties that might arise. The Skype technologies let students get as close as possible to the study of cultural characteristics of various countries of the world to motivate them to obtain the necessary knowledge and skills. The authors emphasized that the main purpose of using IT technologies in the learning process is precisely to facilitate and accelerate the process of mastering a foreign language through direct oral contact with foreigners. In addition, in an authentic language environment, the ability to communicate with a native speaker helps to overcome the psychological barrier. Thus, learning a foreign language with the use of innovative information technologies has certain prospects and contributes to improving the quality of teaching a foreign language.

Keywords: blended learning, digital education, e-learning, Skype technologies, teaching Speaking