

THE USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES IN LEARNING ENGLISH

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Abstract: The importance of the English language in the modern world is undeniable. It serves as the primary means of international communication. Today, individuals without certain linguistic knowledge cannot fully utilize the latest advancements of civilization. Virtually all spheres of life require some level of English proficiency. In the modern world, students who speak English are considered valuable assets in the job market. However, mastering this language is challenging. This article explores ways to overcome this challenge.

Keywords: English proficiency, research, knowledge, language learning, key to success, networking.

The significance of the English language in today's world cannot be overstated. It is the main medium of international communication. Individuals who lack English proficiency face limitations in accessing modern achievements. Nearly every aspect of life, to some extent, requires knowledge of English. Professionals who speak English have a competitive edge in employment and are highly valued by employers. However, mastering the language remains a complex task. This article examines solutions to this problem.

Today, proficiency in English is no longer just a mark of education or a way to stand out—it has become an essential necessity. This realization grows increasingly evident in society each year [2, 22].

Competent English proficiency is an important part of a person's overall education. Yet, many students underestimate its significance. Specialists with language skills are particularly in demand in scientific and educational fields. A high level of English is especially crucial for those pursuing careers in the IT industry.

Knowledge of English opens doors to employment opportunities in large corporations, where qualified translators are highly sought after. Many companies even invest in language training for promising employees.

English is indispensable for secretaries in international companies who regularly interact with foreign partners, as well as for professionals in the tourism industry, where language skills are a must.

One undeniable advantage of English proficiency is its direct impact on income levels. Research shows that professionals who speak a foreign language earn 10–40% higher salaries compared to their non-English-speaking colleagues. Moreover, in many companies, English proficiency has become a mandatory requirement for employment.

For students, language competence unlocks vast opportunities. Many employers, including large corporations, are willing to hire candidates without work experience, offering competitive salaries if they are fluent in English.

In the modern world, English plays a key role in international communication. Without it, individuals struggle to fully engage with the benefits of globalization. From professional endeavors to daily interactions, language skills are essential in nearly every aspect of life.

The relevance of learning English continues to grow. Today, even basic proficiency is considered a minimum requirement for any educated person [3].

The primary condition for effective English mastery is setting clear goals. Without understanding why the language is needed, learning is rarely successful. It is also important to remember that language is a dynamic system, constantly evolving with new words and expressions. Therefore, even after reaching the desired level, maintaining contact with the language is crucial—through reading literature, watching films, listening to music, and other forms of practice [2,27].

The modern education market is flooded with promises of “fluency in English in 3–4 weeks” through various “super systems.” However, these claims are little more than marketing gimmicks. The reality is that even after 3, 6, or 12 months, achieving full proficiency is unlikely, given the language’s vast vocabulary, countless idioms, and phrasal verbs. Even complete immersion in an English-speaking environment 24/7 does not guarantee such rapid results. But there is no need for despair—you have already mastered one of the world’s most complex languages.

A common misconception is that real progress can only be made abroad or with expensive tutors. While studying in an English-speaking country is undoubtedly effective, modern technology allows for excellent results at home. All you need is a computer with internet access and exposure to English-language content, such as educational videos on YouTube. A persistent myth suggests that true language fluency can only be achieved through immersion abroad or expensive private tutoring. While studying in an English-speaking country certainly provides valuable exposure, modern digital tools have made high-quality language learning accessible to everyone—right from home.

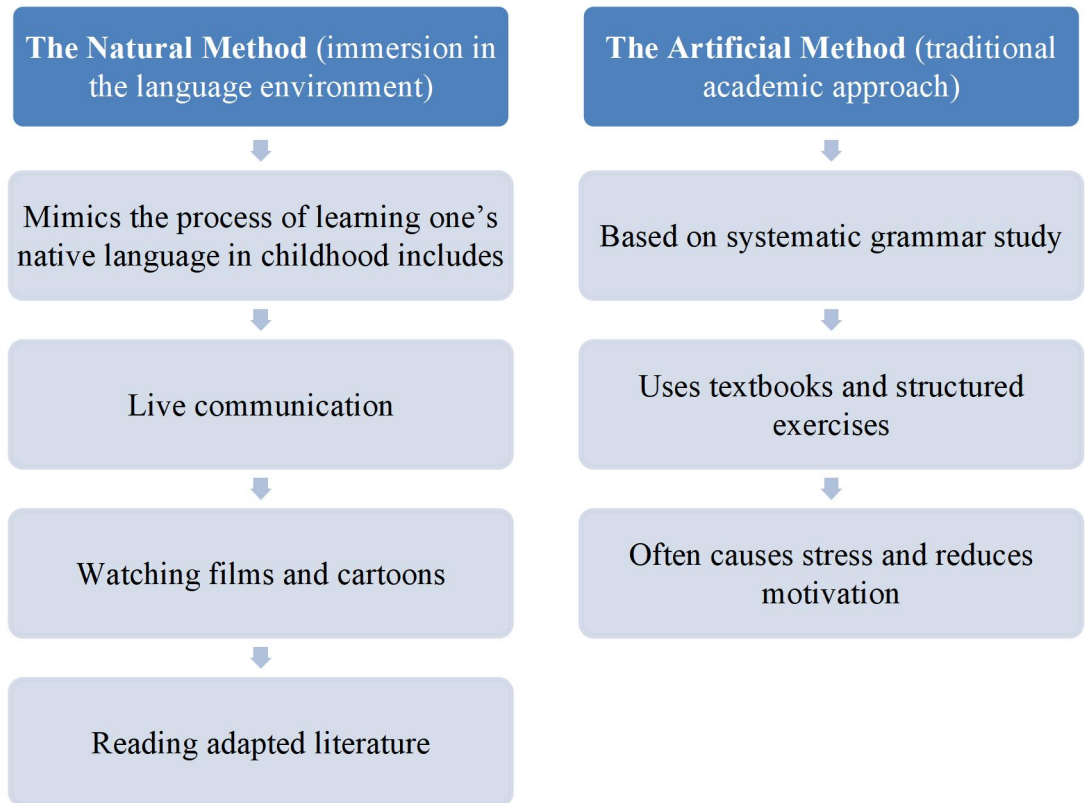
Many mistakenly believe that language learning should begin exclusively in childhood. This stereotype is debunked by numerous examples:

- Steve Kaufmann, a 70-year-old polyglot currently learning his 11th language (Romanian).
- Kato Lomb, a Hungarian interpreter who continued studying languages even after turning 90.

These examples convincingly prove that it is never too late to start learning English [1, 18].

The key to success lies not in age or location but in consistency and proper motivation. Modern technologies provide all the tools needed for effective language learning at any age and level of busyness.

There are two fundamentally different approaches to language acquisition:



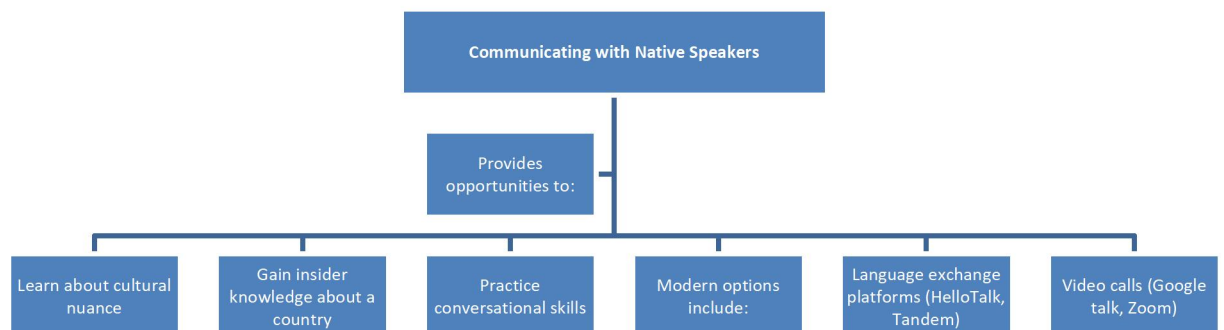
Main advantage: It is enjoyable and fosters an intuitive grasp of the language [1, 30].

Practical ways to improve English

1. Watching films in the original language

- ✓ Start with subtitles, gradually phasing them out
- ✓ Helps acclimate to natural speech patterns, accents, and slang.

2. Communicating with native speakers



If you have a blog or have been wanting to start one, proficiency in English will open up numerous new opportunities for you.

First, an English-language blog can reach a much wider audience. Second, maintaining such a blog will not only allow you to write in English but also help you learn to think in the language.

Additionally, blogging in English is a great way to connect, build friendships, and exchange ideas with people worldwide. It also serves as proof of your strong English skills—something potential employers will notice.

To practice translating from Russian to English, try using the “Translator” technique. This involves working with short thematic text passages. Start by reviewing the list of English words used in the excerpt, then translate the text phrase by phrase from Russian into English.

For those looking to learn English from scratch or take their language skills to the next level, consider the “Teacher method” program. This comprehensive learning system combines video lessons, interactive exercises, assessment tests, and live online instruction with teachers. Designed for learners of all ages and proficiency levels, it provides a structured yet flexible approach to mastering English [3].

In summary, English language learning remains critically important in today’s world. Job candidates with foreign language skills consistently have a competitive advantage over equally qualified candidates who lack language proficiency. Whether through private tutoring or self-study, developing English skills is essential.

- ✓ Effective methods include:
- ✓ Utilizing instructional videos

Watching films in their original language (without dubbing)

Remember: It’s never too late to start learning a foreign language. The only true requirement is motivation and commitment to consistent practice. As research and numerous success stories demonstrate, with proper methods and dedication, anyone can achieve English proficiency regardless of age or background.

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