

EFFECTIVE METHODS IN TEACHING FOREIN LANGUAGE LEXICON

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Abstract:

This article is devoted to the issues of teaching using the "ESA" method to increase students' foreign language vocabulary, and ways to motivate students are described.

Keywords

Lexicon, vocabulary, ESA, interest, learning, activation.

Introduction

In the development of all speech activities of language learning, learning vocabulary is the most important and unique starting point of the process. One of the teacher's problems in teaching vocabulary is choosing the right words for the students. First of all, the teacher should choose a vocabulary that is suitable for the task or topic of the lesson. The teacher should also choose words according to the level and age of the students and pay attention to how often the students can use this vocabulary in the language structure. Frequency of vocabulary use is an important factor to consider. Therefore, the vocabulary taught can also be divided into groups of "trick words" (words that students already know but do not use much) and "productive words" (words that students know and use).

It is not surprising that students need to know the meaning and usage of new words, as well as the spelling (how the word is spelled), pronunciation. It is also important for students to know what category the new vocabulary belongs to, their part of speech, their relationship with other words (conjunctions, synonyms, antonyms, etc.).

With all these important aspects in mind, teachers must come up with their own methods of teaching vocabulary, choosing those that suit the specific environment, age, level and learning style of their students (you may need to make some adjustments to adapt your teachers' methods to the needs of your students).

One of the most effective vocabulary learning methods is called "ESA" (Engage, Study and Activate) recommended by Jeremy Harmer. This method is effective in teaching vocabulary step by step. At the Engage stage, the teacher should engage and interest the students to make the learning process more interesting and motivating. At this stage, the teacher names new words and explains their meaning. Of course, there are a wide range of ways to explain meaning: for example, imitation and explaining the meaning of words through actions, or pictures and flashcards can also be very useful tools in this regard.

In the learning phase, the teacher can use fill-in-the-blank, word searches (crosswords), matching exercises, pronunciation exercises, dialogue and text-based exercises. Also, different sentence building activities or games with new vocabulary are effective.

At the final stage of activation, the teacher can use communicative games, discussion or role-playing games. At this point, the teacher can divide the class into small groups and

allow the students in the groups to create a poster or advertisement. Communicating with students through games is a fun way to learn vocabulary and language because games are perfect for all ages and can engage all students in the learning process.

Sentence structure and grammar are the foundation of the English language, and vocabulary is like the glue that holds it together. Expanded vocabulary allows learners to feel more confident and communicate more effectively. There are many ways to teach vocabulary and a teacher can use different methods in each lesson. This is because each group consists of different students with different learning styles.

Speakers should be familiar with the lexical units before engaging in communication. In addition, vocabulary can be taught in several ways. Before teaching vocabulary, it is necessary to choose the appropriate vocabulary according to the purpose of the lesson and the level of language learners. One of the most effective ways to teach vocabulary is to use visual materials and plan fun activities. Visual aids such as pictures can be used to preview vocabulary for each day's lesson and review vocabulary from previous lessons. Other fun activities include games and role playing. It is also important that teachers use a variety of vocabulary teaching methods to engage learners in the learning process. The more students use vocabulary, the more likely they are to remember it. Therefore, it is important to introduce new vocabulary in each lesson.

The main focus of all lessons should be to try to retain the learned words in long-term memory. Lessons should include checking understanding of previous material, pre-teaching new material, and asking students to practice Reading, Writing, and Speaking using vocabulary. The following lesson plan can be given as an example. The lesson plan is based on the "ESA" method recommended by Jeremy Harmer.

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Sample lesson plan

- Engage: Students talk about the weekend, focusing on the vocabulary learned last week.
- Study: New vocabulary is taught in advance as a logical continuation of the previous lesson.

Students complete an activity where they have to match words to definitions or pictures. Learners are given a picture and asked to write a story about what they think happened.

- Activate: Students are asked to present their stories to the class.

The knowledge of each group of students is not always the same. The way to teach vocabulary depends on the level of knowledge of the audience. The sample lesson above is suitable for relatively advanced students. The use of visual aids is more effective in lower level groups because they require less understanding of English.

A sample lesson plan for students with a relatively low level of knowledge:

- Engage: Students play the Simon Says game to review previous vocabulary.
- Study: Vocabulary is taught in advance using pictures. Students are given a vocabulary chart to match the pictures.

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- **Activate:** Students are asked to make a drawing highlighting all the vocabulary they are learning.

Teachers often face challenges in various aspects of language teaching. The main task of every teacher is to motivate and involve the student in the language learning process. Therefore, teachers try to create a learning environment in classes that allows students to show and maintain their focus on their lessons. There are different methods and approaches to learning English, and it is not always easy to choose the best one for the lesson to be effective and successful.

In conclusion, whatever teaching method vocabulary teachers choose, the key is to find the most effective one that works for both the teacher and the learners. There is no doubt that teachers can make education meaningful and successful and motivate students to learn if they are dedicated teachers who love their students and have a great passion for teaching. At the end of my speech, I would like to quote the opinion of Margaret E. Sangster "No one should teach who is not in love with teaching".

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