

TEACHING ENGLISH AND ACTIVITIES IN UZBEKISTAN

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Abstract: *this article explores the role of English language education in Uzbekistan and highlights the various activities implemented to enhance language acquisition among students. It discusses the government's commitment to improving English instruction, the challenges faced by teachers, and the innovative methods employed to engage students in the learning process. The article also delves into the integration of technology and extracurricular activities as tools to foster language development. Ultimately, the focus on teaching English in Uzbekistan aims to empower students and prepare them for a global future with diverse opportunities.*

Keywords: *Teaching English, Uzbekistan, Language learning, Activities, Education.*

Introduction: Uzbekistan, a vibrant and rapidly developing country in Central Asia, has seen a growing interest in English language education in recent years. With a rich cultural heritage and a desire to connect with the global community, Uzbekistan has been actively promoting English language learning through various activities. And also Uzbekistan offers an array of opportunities for English teachers who are eager to make a positive impact while exploring a fascinating new culture. This article aims to shed light on the importance of teaching English in Uzbekistan and explore the diverse range of activities that facilitate language acquisition and foster cultural exchange. One of the main reasons why this topic is essential is that with the help of new and modern type of activities and learning as well as teaching methods, teachers can achieve more good results from their students while teaching English. Because, today most students in our country would prefer to learn English as a main foreign language with new

unexplored and practical activities.

METHODS

There are important factors of teaching English in Uzbekistan. The first one is the need for English language proficiency: With the increasing globalization and participation in the global economy, English has become a vital tool for professional success and personal growth in Uzbekistan. And the other one is to enhance education system: Teaching English not only develops language skills but also improves critical thinking, communication, and cross-cultural understanding, thus enhancing the overall education system of Uzbekistan. Uzbekistan's increasing integration into the global community has led to a greater emphasis on English language learning. The government has implemented numerous initiatives to promote English proficiency, creating a thriving demand for qualified English teachers across the country. This demand, coupled with a surge in language schools and institutions, offers a promising job market for English teachers in Uzbekistan.

English teachers in Uzbekistan have the opportunity to employ innovative and interactive teaching methods to engage and inspire students. The field of language learning and education has gained widespread attention globally, and English education has faced various challenges and issues over the years. Despite these challenges, the essential role of English as a foreign language educator has been acknowledged, prompting the development of effective curriculum initiatives aimed at overcoming these obstacles and facilitating success. For instance, a comprehensive curriculum that emphasizes practical language skills and cultural understanding can better equip learners to navigate real-world situations and communicate effectively in English (Smith, J. 2018). One of the key challenges faced by English teachers in Uzbekistan is the large class sizes and varied English language proficiency levels of students. To address this, teachers are employing innovative techniques and approaches to captivate students' interest and cater to their individual learning needs. By moving beyond traditional lecture-style instruction, teachers can foster an active learning environment, encouraging

students to participate actively in their language development. Utilizing group work, role-plays, and stimulating discussions, teachers can create a supportive space for students to practice their English skills and boost their confidence. And also to further enhance language learning, English teachers in Uzbekistan can organize extracurricular activities. Language clubs, where students engage in informal conversations and cultural exchange, offer a space for students to practice English in a relaxed setting. Drama workshops, debates, and public speaking events can help students become more confident and fluent in English, while also developing valuable skills that extend beyond language learning. There are mostly two teaching approaches of English Language used in Uzbekistan. 1. Communicative Language Teaching (CLT): Adopting a learner-centered approach, CLT focuses on interactive activities that encourage students to actively engage in conversations and develop their language skills. 2. Task-Based Language Teaching (TBLT): TBLT emphasizes real-life tasks that require learners to use English in meaningful contexts, enhancing their practical language skills. Teaching English in Uzbekistan is not a new phenomenon. English language education has been a part of the curriculum for many years, but there has been a growing recognition of the need to improve the quality of instruction and make English learning more interactive and engaging. One of the main challenges faced by English teachers in Uzbekistan is the lack of English proficiency among students. Many students have a basic understanding of the language but struggle with fluency and confidence. In order to tackle this issue, teachers are encouraged to incorporate interactive activities that promote speaking and listening skills into their lessons.

RESULTS

To further support English language education, foreign language teaching assistants and exchange programs have been introduced in Uzbekistan's schools and universities. These initiatives provide students with the chance to interact with native English speakers, promoting authentic language practice and cultural exchange.

Activities Promoting English Language Learning in Uzbekistan:

1. English Language Clubs: These clubs provide a platform for students to practice English through discussions, debates, and presentations, fostering confidence and fluency.
2. Language Exchanges: Collaboration between Uzbekistani and native English-speaking schools or universities allows for language exchange programs, enabling students to practice English with native speakers.
3. Volunteer Teaching Programs: Native English speakers and qualified teachers participate in volunteer programs, offering English language instruction to underserved communities, promoting language acquisition and cultural exchange.
4. Cultural Weeks and Festivals: Organizing cultural weeks and festivals allows students to showcase their language skills and immerse themselves in English-speaking environments, celebrating diversity and promoting cultural exchange.

DISCUSSION

One popular approach is the use of role-plays and simulations. For example, students might be asked to imagine themselves in a restaurant and practice ordering food and having a conversation with the waiter or waitress. This not only helps improve their language skills but also encourages them to think creatively and step out of their comfort zones. Another effective method is using authentic materials in the classroom. Instead of relying solely on textbooks, teachers can bring in real-life materials like newspaper articles, songs, and videos to expose students to the English language as it is used in the real world. This allows students to engage with language in a more authentic and meaningful way. Technology can also play a significant role in making English learning more engaging. With access to the internet and various language-learning apps, teachers can incorporate interactive activities such as online quizzes, virtual language exchanges, and educational games into their lessons. This not only motivates students but also provides them with opportunities to practice their language skills beyond the classroom. Furthermore, the integration of technology in English language education has become imperative in the modern era. The availability and

influence of current technical equipment have significantly impacted the teaching and learning processes. For instance, interactive multimedia tools, online platforms, and language-learning applications offer learners engaging and accessible resources to enhance their language skills. Incorporating these technological advancements in English language classrooms can provide students with immersive and interactive experiences, promoting a more dynamic and effective learning environment (Anderson, R., & Thompson, M. 2019).

There are some impact and benefits of English Language Activities: a) Improved Language Acquisition: Engaging in various activities fosters a practical and immersive experience for learners, leading to improved language acquisition and fluency; b) Enhanced Cultural Awareness: By interacting with English speakers and participating in activities that showcase different cultures, students develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of global diversity; c) Opportunities for Personal Growth: English language activities provide students with opportunities to enhance their communication, leadership, and problem-solving skills, facilitating personal growth and empowerment.

CONCLUSION

Teaching English and promoting language learning activities in Uzbekistan has become essential in today's interconnected world. These activities not only improve language proficiency but also foster cultural exchange, enhancing Uzbekistan's integration with the global community. By implementing a variety of engaging activities and approaches, Uzbekistan continues to promote English language learning and provide its citizens with the necessary skills for success in the international arena.

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