INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL METHODS USING ROLE GAMES IN LEARNING ENGLISH IN A PROFESSIONAL CONTEXT

Abstract. This study considered the importance and relevance of innovative teaching methods for learning English in a professional direction. In order to improve the quality of education and prepare students for the challenges of the modern professional world, it is worth paying attention to several key reasons why innovative methods are necessary and effective in the process of learning English.

It was noted that innovative teaching methods can significantly increase students' interest and motivation. Modern learning requires more activity on the part of students, and game elements used in innovative methods make the learning process more exciting and interesting. Students interact more with the material as they participate in various game scenarios and actively use English in real situations.

It was also considered how innovative teaching methods contribute to the development of students' practical skills. Using the language in real professional situations stimulates the development of communication, speech and cooperation skills. Students learn to use English to solve practical problems, which helps them become more prepared for their future careers.

It was established that innovative training methods contribute to adaptation to the requirements of the modern labor market. Today's employers increasingly value English language skills and the ability to use them in real business situations. Innovative teaching methods help students master the specialized vocabulary and skills necessary for successful entry into the modern professional field.

One of the important parts of our research was the concept of role-playing in learning. This approach allows students to assume defined roles and interact in scenarios that reflect their professional field. It is important to note that role-playing...
games contribute not only to the development of speech and communication skills, but also teach students to cooperate in a team, develop creativity and critical thinking.

This study highlighted the importance and relevance of using innovative teaching methods in learning English for professional direction. Innovative teaching methods help enrich students' vocabulary and introduce them to specific vocabulary and terminology that is important in their chosen profession. In addition, they help students develop the skills to adapt to changes in today's labor market, where dynamism and rapid changes are the norm. Innovative methods also contribute to increasing the intercultural competence of students, expanding their worldview and understanding of cultural characteristics. All these aspects prepare students for effective work in future professions and give them a competitive advantage in today's labor market.

**Keywords:** innovative teaching methods, English language, professional orientation, motivation, interactive methods, role-playing games, specialized vocabulary, communication skills, use of games in education.

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ІННОВАЦІЙНІ НАВЧАЛЬНІ МЕТОДИ З ВИКОРИСТАННЯМ РОЛЬОВИХ ІГОР У ВИВЧЕННІ АНГЛІЙСЬКОЇ МОВИ В ПРОФЕСІЙНому КОНТЕКСТІ.

Анотація. У цьому дослідженні була розглянута важливість та актуальність інноваційних методів навчання для вивчення англійської мови в професійному спрямуванні. З метою підвищення рівня якості освіти та підготовки студентів до викликів сучасного професійного світу варто звернути увагу на кілька ключових причин, чому інноваційні методи є необхідними та ефективними у процесі навчання англійської мови.
Було зазначено що, інноваційні методи навчання можуть суттєво підвищити зацікавленість та мотивацію студентів. Сучасне навчання вимагає більшої активності з боку студентів, і ігрові елементи, використані в інноваційних методах, роблять процес навчання більш захопливим та цікавим. Студенти більше взаємодіють з матеріалом, оскільки вони беруть участь у різних ігрових сценаріях та активно використовують англійську мову у реальних ситуаціях.

Також було розглянуто як інноваційні методи навчання сприяють розвитку практичних навичок студентів. Застосування мови в реальних професійних ситуаціях стимулює розвиток навичок комунікації, мовлення та співпраці. Студенти навчаються використовувати англійську мову для вирішення практичних завдань, що допомагає їм стати більш підготовленими до майбутньої кар'єри.

Було встановлено, що інноваційні методи навчання сприяють адаптації до вимог сучасного ринку праці. Сьогоднішні роботодавці все більше цінують навички англійської мови та можливість її використання в реальних бізнес-ситуаціях. Інноваційні методи навчання допомагають студентам освоювати спеціалізовану лексику та навички, необхідні для успішного впровадження у сучасну професійну галузь.

Однією з важливих частин дослідження є концепція рольових ігор у навчанні. Цей підхід дозволяє студентам приймати на себе визначені ролі та взаємодіяти у сценаріях, які відображають їхню професійну галузь. Важливо відзначити, що рольові ігри сприяють не лише розвитку навичок мовлення та комунікації, але і вчать студентів співпрацювати в команді, розвивати креативність та критичне мислення.

У цьому дослідженні висвітлено важливість та актуальність використання інноваційних методів навчання при вивченні англійської мови для професійного спрямування. Інноваційні методи навчання сприяють збагаченню словникового запасу студентів та познайомленню їх зі спеціфічною лексикою та термінологією, які є важливими в їхній обраній професії. Крім того, вони допомагають студентам розвивати навички адаптації до змін на сучасному ринку праці, де динамічність та швидкі зміні є нормою. Інноваційні методи також сприяють підвищенню міжкультурної компетентності студентів, розширяючи їх світогляд і розуміння культурних особливостей. Усі ці аспекти підготовлюють студентів до ефективної роботи в майбутніх професіях та надають їм конкурентну перевагу на сучасному ринку праці.

Ключові слова: Інноваційні методи навчання, англійська мова, професійне спрямування, мотивація, інтерактивні методи, рольові ігри, спеціалізованая лексика, комунікативні навички, використання ігор у навчанні.
Analysis of the latest research and publications. English language education is undergoing a profound transformation in response to the evolving demands of the modern world. In an era characterized by globalization, rapid technological advancements, and the need for effective cross-cultural communication, educators are exploring innovative teaching methods to equip students with the language skills required for success in their personal and professional lives. This article delves into the realm of innovative English language teaching (ELT) methods, drawing upon insights from various experts and educational resources. By examining the thoughts and ideas of educators, researchers, and reputable websites, we aim to shed light on the promising approaches that are shaping the future of English language education.

A number of scientific studies conducted in the field of teaching English for future professional activities highlight the importance of using games and role-playing as learning tools. For example, Nosirova [6], D. N., Kalyani, D., & Rajasekaran, K. [3] in their research emphasize that games contribute to the activation of the educational process and the development of students' communication skills, which are extremely important for their further professional activities.

Denham, A.R., Mayben, R. and Boman, T. examine aspects of the use of games and role-playing in the teaching of English for professional activities. They investigate the impact of these teaching methods on the development of students' language skills and their ability to apply these skills in practical professional situations [2]. An important part of their research is the analysis of the effectiveness of games and role-playing games to achieve pedagogical goals in higher education.

The purpose of this research is to investigate and justify the use of games in teaching English for students specializing in certain professional fields, with the aim of improving their language competence and preparing them for the demands of the modern labor market.

Presentation of the main material of the study. Innovative educational methods using role-playing games in learning English in a professional context are relevant in the modern educational environment. Modern education requires more active and engaged learning, and innovative methods such as role-playing allow creating stimulating learning environments. In addition, knowledge of the English language is becoming increasingly important for a successful career, and the use of innovative methods can prepare students to use the language effectively in professional fields. Role-playing games contribute to increasing students' motivation, development of practical skills and joint language practice, which makes this topic very relevant in the context of preparing students for the challenges of the modern world.
In today's educational environment, it is important to develop students' motivation to learn English as a second language. Language is a key tool for communication in professional activities, and English language skills can determine career success. The use of games in language learning can be an effective method of stimulating students' motivation and developing their confidence in their own abilities.

As research by Baharudin & Yunus (2018) confirms, games "promote autonomous learning among students, thereby encouraging them to be more confident in learning [1]." This shows that games create a favorable atmosphere for independent language learning and increase the level of students' confidence in their own abilities to learn English.

In their study, Kalyani and Rajasekaran (2018) point to the importance of education and emphasize the primary task of learning: the successful assimilation of information in the minds of students. The authors see in this process the application of methods that promote active learning, stimulate creative thinking and the development of critical analysis.

The authors consider education as a "light" [3] that shines on the path of humanity and points to the right direction of progress. They emphasize that the purpose of education is not only to form students' literacy, but also to promote the development of rational thinking, the acquisition of knowledge, and the development of independence.

An important element of successful learning, according to research, is the "will to change" [3], which is considered a prerequisite for achieving progress in any field. In addition, the authors emphasize the possibility of creativity, and they note that innovative approaches to learning sometimes contribute to the joint growth of both students and teachers.

Hence, the study of Kalyani and Rajasekaran (2018) emphasizes the importance of education and active learning, and emphasizes that education is not only a means of imparting information, but also a tool for developing students' creativity and independence [3].

In educational role-playing games, situations are created that contribute to the assimilation of knowledge and skills by students, while the emphasis is on the active participation of students in the communication process. The absence of a predetermined text for the "actor" stimulates improvisation, which, in turn, promotes the development of creative abilities. Role-playing games create an incentive for motivated communication in English, and involve students in the communication process. In this context, it is important to ensure a moderate pace and intensity of communication in order to maintain the story line, and to allow the teacher to intervene when necessary to adjust what is said for the purpose of understanding and correcting errors.
Participation in role-playing games has a positive effect on students' communicative activity and motivates them to actively prepare, including expanding vocabulary and improving phonetic and grammatical correctness of speech. Also, the realistic themes of the games contribute to the improvement of the country studies and communicative competence of the students.

The educational role-playing method also promotes the development of independent and productive thinking aimed at stimulating search and creative activity.

L. M. Rostomova's [7] research in the field of communicative exercises in foreign language learning among law students confirms the importance of role-playing games in increasing the effectiveness of learning. In particular, her research identified a group of role-playing games capable of increasing students' communicative activity and increasing their interest in learning a foreign language.

It should be noted that role-playing games are a promising form of learning, as they contribute to the creation of a favorable psychological climate in the classroom, increase motivation and activate the activity of students, provide an opportunity to use existing knowledge, experience and communication skills in various situations. The main goal of communicative role-playing games is the development of students' communication skills, and the corresponding goal is to increase their motivation and cognitive activity. This method is an effective tool for teachers and trainers because it is an interesting activity that involves each student in the process [7].

It should also be noted that there are disadvantages associated with the use of games for learning English, in addition to the obvious positive aspects. Mufti-Zade, N., notes these limitations while considering some of the factors that may influence the effectiveness of this approach [4].

First of all, it should be noted that not all individuals can feel comfortable speaking in front of an audience due to their shyness and lack of confidence in their own language competence. This problem can arise due to the psychological discomfort that occurs during public speaking, especially for those who do not have enough confidence in their language skills. This can lead to a decrease in motivation and deterioration of the resulting learning process [4].

Second, the individual characteristics of the participants may influence their perception of role-playing games for language learning. Some may not take this approach seriously, seeing it as just a game rather than a means to improve their speaking skills. This can affect the attitude towards learning and the amount of effort participants are willing to put into the process.

Third, there is a risk of turning the session into entertainment, where participants may focus too much on the emotional aspect of the games, instead of actively engaging in language learning. This can lead to a loss of seriousness and
pedagogical value of such an approach, as well as to a decrease in the effectiveness of teaching [4].

So, the use of games for learning English has its positive aspects, but it is necessary to carefully consider the mentioned disadvantages that can affect the educational process and its effectiveness. To achieve the best results, it is necessary to take into account and balance the game approach with academic seriousness and individual characteristics of the participants.

The use of games and role-playing in English language classes in higher education has significant potential in shaping students as future professionals. These teaching methods contribute not only to the improvement of language skills, but also to the development of key competencies that students will be able to successfully use in their professional activities.

Games and role-playing in English create an immersive environment for practicing language skills and promote in-depth learning of important aspects of the language and professional terminology. They also provide students with the opportunity to improve the communication skills needed to interact effectively in a professional environment.

Role-playing in simulations of professional situations: students can play the roles of specialists in their future professional field. For example, if they are studying business, they can simulate a meeting to fight issues, conduct business negotiations or develop business plans. After the game, students analyze their work and identify opportunities for improvement. This method allows students to step into the shoes of professionals in their chosen fields. By simulating real-world scenarios, they gain practical experience in handling professional challenges.

Games to choose and discuss: the teacher can have students choose games they want to play and discuss their impressions and lessons learned after each game. For example, after a game where students play the roles of project managers, they can discuss how they managed the project and what difficulties arose. This discussion promotes reflection, communication, and teamwork skills. For example, when students take on the roles of project managers and later discuss their experiences, they can identify the challenges they faced, learn from their peers' strategies, and improve their project management skills. This method helps students develop self-awareness, adaptability, and effective communication—important qualities for any future profession.

Problem Solving Games: create games where students have to find solutions to real or hypothetical problems that may arise in their future professional activities. After the game, they can analyze their approach to solving the problem and draw conclusions. This activity prepares them for tackling complex issues in their future professions, where problem-solving is a fundamental skill. It also cultivates
adaptability, as they learn to adapt to different situations and find innovative solutions.

Conflict Resolution Role-Play: students can engage in scenarios that involve resolving conflicts within a professional setting. This could be conflicts between coworkers, clients, or team members. After the role-play, they can reflect on the strategies used to address the conflict and find common ground. Conflict resolution skills are crucial in virtually all professions. Whether it's mediating disputes among coworkers, handling client complaints, or fostering team cohesion, the ability to effectively resolve conflicts is essential. Through role-play, students practice active listening, empathetic communication, and finding common ground—skills they'll use throughout their careers.

Customer Service Scenarios: this activity can be applied to a wide range of professions that involve customer interaction, such as retail, hospitality, or customer support. Students can play the roles of both customers and service providers, practicing effective communication, problem-solving, and handling difficult situations. Customer service skills are vital in professions that involve client or customer interaction. Students who role-play as service providers can develop communication and problem-solving abilities. Understanding how to handle difficult customers and provide excellent service is valuable across various industries, from retail to hospitality to customer support.

Team Building Exercises: teamwork is crucial in many professions. Role-playing team-building scenarios can help students develop their collaboration and leadership skills. For example, they can simulate team meetings, brainstorming sessions, or decision-making processes. Teamwork and leadership are critical in many professions. Simulating team meetings, brainstorming sessions, or decision-making processes helps students hone their collaboration and leadership skills. These experiences prepare them for working effectively within teams, facilitating group discussions, and contributing to collective decision-making.

Job Interview Role-Play: students can take on the roles of both interviewers and job applicants. This activity helps them practice interviewing skills, answering common interview questions, and evaluating candidate suitability. It's relevant to virtually any profession where job interviews are a part of the hiring process. Job interviews are a universal aspect of professional life. By participating in interview role-plays, students can practice answering common interview questions, learn how to convey their qualifications effectively, and assess candidates for a job. These skills are essential for job seekers and hiring managers alike, as interviews are a standard part of the hiring process in almost all fields.

Negotiation Simulations: negotiation is fundamental in numerous professions, such as business, law, and diplomacy. Engaging in negotiation role-plays allows students to develop the ability to find mutually beneficial solutions, handle tough
negotiations, and build strong arguments. These skills are transferable to contract negotiations, salary discussions, and diplomatic agreements.

*Innovation workshops* entail a structured process where students first define a pertinent open-ended problem or challenge, then form diverse groups to brainstorm creative solutions without judgment. Subsequently, each group presents their innovative ideas to the class, followed by a discussion session involving constructive feedback on the proposed solutions. Based on received feedback, groups refine their solutions. Finally, the class collectively selects the most innovative idea. Engaging in these workshops fosters creativity, problem-solving abilities, teamwork, communication skills, adaptability, and entrepreneurial thinking. Such skills are universally valuable in future professions, endowing students with a competitive edge and the capacity to provide fresh perspectives and innovative solutions in a broad spectrum of careers.

These games contribute not only to active learning of the English language, but also to the development of skills that students will be able to use in their future professional activities. The examples of games discussed help students learn the language and develop the necessary skills for effective collaboration and communication in their chosen field.

In order to achieve the effectiveness of the use of games and role-playing games in English classes in order to prepare students for future professional activities, it is necessary to follow several important rules and principles:

*Clear goal and objectives:* determining the specific goal and objectives of the games before starting the game is a key step. The teacher should clearly define which professional skills or specific aspects of the language the students should learn.

*Role identity:* students should carefully study the roles they will play in the game, including professional characteristics and speech characteristics. This will help them feel better in the image of a specialist in their field.

*Collaborative Approach:* encourage collaboration and interaction between students as it reflects real professional activities where communication and collaboration are important components.

*Analysis and Discussion:* after the game is over, analyze and discuss the results. Students must review their actions, decisions and communication, identify strengths and weaknesses, and draw conclusions for further improvement.

*Feedback:* provide students with feedback on their performance during the game. This will help them understand how they can improve their professional skills.

All these rules contribute not only to the improvement of language skills, but also to the formation of important skills such as communication, decision-making and cooperation, which are necessary for successful professional activities. Role-playing in higher education can help students better prepare for the challenges they will face in their future careers and improve their skills and abilities necessary for success.
Conclusions. In the course of our study, we systematically examined the importance and effectiveness of using games and role-playing in English classes for students in their future professional activities. We have analyzed various aspects of these learning methods and their potential for developing key skills and competencies.

The findings of our study emphasize that games and role-playing in English classes are extremely useful and innovative tools for preparing students for modern professional activities. We have identified several key aspects that make these training methods particularly valuable:

- Development of communication skills.
- Reproduction of real professional situations.
- Development of strategic thinking and critical analysis.
- Mastering specialized vocabulary and terminology.
- Increasing motivation to study.
- Formation of cooperation and leadership skills.

This research also indicates that games promote student motivation and create an immersive learning environment. They help students develop skills that will be useful in real professional settings.

The main value of our research is highlighting how games and role-playing games can become powerful tools for training future professionals and building their professional competence. Our findings expand the understanding and support the application of these methods in higher education to prepare students for the modern demands of the professional market.

References:

Література: