

## EFFECTIVE METHODS OF TEACHING ENGLISH

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*This article analyzes modern and effective pedagogical approaches used in the process of teaching English. In particular, the advantages of communicative approaches, interactive methods, the use of digital technologies, differentiated instruction, problem-based learning, and game-based learning technologies are highlighted. The effectiveness of these methods in practical lessons is substantiated.*

In today's era of globalization, knowledge of the English language is one of the key factors that enhance an individual's professional competitiveness. Effective English language teaching requires not only modern curricula but also the implementation of innovative teaching methods. This article discusses widely used methods of teaching English, their advantages, and practical application. Educating well-rounded, highly competent students who are loyal to national and universal values, proficient in modern knowledge and information technologies, and fluent in foreign languages is one of the main objectives of contemporary education. This process requires teachers to demonstrate high responsibility, strong methodological preparation, and creativity.

A modern English teacher should not only have deep subject knowledge but also be skilled in using advanced pedagogical and information-communication technologies. The

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use of multimedia tools, didactic materials, and visual aids makes lessons more engaging and improves learning outcomes. Practical foreign language learning primarily focuses on developing oral and written communication skills. Language activity includes listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. English learners should be able to express their thoughts clearly and fluently and fully comprehend spoken and written texts. Learning about the geography, history, and culture of the target language country also contributes to deeper language acquisition. In this regard, the use of multimedia tools significantly increases students' motivation and lesson effectiveness. A method is a strategic approach employed to accomplish a specific objective. In reality, methods are deeply embedded in our daily routines, influencing nearly every moment of our lives. For instance, something as ordinary as walking to school in the morning or taking a bus reflects our chosen method for navigating our environment effectively and purposefully. In today's interconnected world, proficiency in English is essential for academic achievement, professional growth, and international communication. However, teaching English as a second or foreign language (ESL/EFL) poses significant challenges.<sup>2</sup> To ensure effective language learning, educators must select appropriate teaching methods that engage students and cater to their unique linguistic needs. This paper investigates the role of effective teaching techniques in English instruction, with a focus on key methods that have been shown to significantly improve language learning in diverse educational environments.

1. Complex Grammar: English grammar is difficult for students to learn, especially in using correct tenses and sentence structures. Learners often confuse past, present, and future tenses while speaking.

2. Overuse of Native Language: Excessive use of the native language in classrooms hinders English learning. Teachers should encourage communication in English to improve fluency and pronunciation.

3. Lack of Confidence: Many students feel insecure speaking English in public. This is often due to insufficient encouragement from teachers. Confidence is essential, and students should be motivated to speak even if they make mistakes, as learning comes from those errors.

4. Over-Reliance on Translation: Students often use dictionaries or translation apps, which can lead to inaccurate translations—especially with idioms and phrases. Literal translations can distort meanings and affect speaking quality.

5. Dominance of Top Students: Teachers should not focus only on high-achieving students but also motivate weaker ones to participate actively in class. The famous educator and psychologist Lev Vygotsky once said: “The effectiveness of education is closely linked to the learner’s zone of proximal development.”<sup>3</sup> If a teacher correctly identifies this zone and chooses appropriate methods accordingly, the outcomes of education will be significantly enhanced. Therefore students should learn English not as an obligation, but out of genuine interest and curiosity. To prevent these issues, it would be appropriate for teachers to use innovative and effective teaching methods. Below, we outline effective pedagogical methods for enhancing student learning.

#### **Quick answers**

This technique involves fast question-and-answer interactions during a lesson. The teacher engages students with quick questions, which helps to increase their attention and response speed. The teacher rapidly asks students simple questions (e.g., “What is the capital of France?”). Students must answer as quickly as possible within a time limit (e.g., 10 seconds). Points are awarded for correct and fast answers.

#### **Pantomime**

This method uses gestures to demonstrate new words. The teacher shows a word using body language while students guess the correct term. This keeps learners from getting bored and introduces vocabulary in a playful manner. A student or teacher acts out a word using gestures without speaking. The rest of the class must guess the word. (Examples: “swimming,” “reading,” “eating”).

It is known that young learners remember more of what they see than what they hear. Teachers can use visual aids like posters, flashcards, and real-life objects to reinforce vocabulary. For instance, everyday items such as books, pens, windows, and tables can be used in classroom activities to help learners practice using new words in sentences. Students choose an object in the classroom and describe its color, shape, and use in English without naming it directly. Others guess which object it is.

The application of modern teaching methods during lessons leads to high educational outcomes. Interactive techniques such as “Brainstorming,” “Blitz Survey,” “Step-by-Step,” “INSERT,” and “Cluster” encourage learners to think actively, communicate, and collaborate. Group work develops students’ critical and independent thinking, discussion skills, and teamwork abilities.



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In English language learning, vocabulary plays a more important role than grammar, as ideas are expressed directly through words. According to experts, the English language contains more than 500,000 words, which requires learners to continuously expand their vocabulary. Effective practical activities include dialogues, role plays, debates, pair work, and small group tasks. Listening and speaking-oriented exercises enrich lesson content and enhance communicative competence.

Modern digital technologies play an important role in teaching English. Commonly used tools include:

- mobile applications (Duolingo, Quizlet, BBC Learning English);
- online platforms (Google Classroom, Kahoot, Quizizz);
- video and audio resources (YouTube, TED Talks).

Game-based learning technologies increase learners' motivation and create a natural language environment. Games such as "Word Bingo," "Memory Game," "Who am I?", and "Hot Seat" are particularly effective in developing vocabulary skills.

In conclusion, the use of innovative and interactive approaches in teaching English significantly improves educational effectiveness. Modern methods promote independent thinking, language competence, and creativity among learners. High learning outcomes can be achieved when lessons are organized based on creative cooperation between teacher and students.

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