

## MODERN TEACHING METHODS USED IN INTENSIVE FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION

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### ABSTRACT:

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With the increasing global demand for multilingual skills, intensive foreign language courses have become essential. These programs, which are designed to help learners acquire a new language quickly, require effective and modern teaching methods. This article explores the use of contemporary approaches like communicative language teaching (CLT), task-based learning (TBL), and the integration of technology in intensive language programs. By examining practical examples and theoretical experiments, it shows how these methods can improve engagement, fluency, and retention. Challenges such as student burnout and unequal access to technology are discussed, along with potential solutions.

**INTRODUCTION.** The need for foreign language proficiency has never been more important. As the world becomes more interconnected, being able to communicate in multiple languages is a valuable skill. Intensive language programs aim to develop these skills in a short amount of time, making them essential for learners who need quick results. However, to achieve success, these programs rely on modern, effective teaching methods. This article looks at some of the most effective approaches currently used in intensive foreign language education, focusing on their benefits, real-world applications, and potential drawbacks.

**Methods.** This study draws on examples from educational practices and hypothetical experiments to illustrate how modern teaching methods are applied in intensive language courses. The methods explored are:

1. Communicative Language Teaching (CLT)
2. Task-Based Learning (TBL)
3. Technology Integration

**Results:**

***Communicative Language Teaching (CLT)***

CLT is all about using language for communication, prioritizing practical skills over theoretical knowledge. This approach fits well with intensive language programs, which require quick fluency. For example, an English immersion course could include role-plays, where students simulate real-world situations such as ordering food at a restaurant or negotiating a business deal. These activities provide learners with opportunities to practice their speaking and listening skills in contexts they will likely face in everyday life. **Example:** In an intensive Spanish course, learners participate in a weekly "market day" where they role-play as vendors and customers, practicing negotiation skills, asking for prices, and describing products. This immersion technique builds both vocabulary and cultural understanding.

A similar activity could be designed for an online French course using video conferencing tools like Zoom. Students would be paired into breakout rooms and tasked with planning a trip to Paris, navigating train schedules, and booking hotels, all in French. These activities provide opportunities for learners to use language in meaningful contexts, strengthening their ability to communicate in real-life situations. Research on CLT shows that students are more likely to retain and use language learned through communicative tasks, which is particularly beneficial in intensive courses where students are expected to learn quickly.

***Task-Based Learning (TBL)***

TBL emphasizes completing real-world tasks, making language learning contextual and dynamic. This method allows learners to apply language in solving problems or completing projects. Hypothetically, an experiment might involve a group of students tasked with organizing a charity event in their target language. They would use the language to draft promotional materials, make announcements, and discuss logistics—all while practicing their language skills in a real-world context.

**Example:** In a German language intensive program, students could be assigned to plan a cultural event for a local community. The task involves writing invitations, preparing speeches, coordinating with vendors, and organizing logistics, all in German. This approach

helps students understand language structure in the context of communication, collaboration, and real-life situations.

**Research in task-based learning** demonstrates that engaging learners in relevant tasks increases motivation and retention. By simulating real-world situations, students are able to bridge the gap between theory and practice, which is crucial for intensive programs where learners are expected to rapidly gain proficiency.

***Technology Integration.***

Incorporating technology into language learning can enhance access, personalization, and engagement, especially in intensive language programs. Digital tools such as language learning apps, virtual reality (VR), and online platforms can be used to reinforce classroom activities and provide additional language exposure outside of traditional class hours.

**Hypothetical Experiment:** Students in an intensive English course could use a language learning app like Duolingo to reinforce vocabulary. Additionally, VR simulations could be used for immersive experiences, such as simulating a walk through an airport where students must ask for directions, check in at the counter, and navigate the airport in English. In an online Spanish course, instructors could use platforms like Padlet to facilitate collaborative writing assignments, where students work together to create a travel guide for a Spanish-speaking city. This combines writing skills with group collaboration, both of which are vital in intensive programs.

The integration of technology not only supports traditional language acquisition methods but also increases access to language resources and creates dynamic, interactive learning environments. Research shows that tech tools can aid in vocabulary retention, pronunciation practice, and exposure to native speakers through language exchange apps and online immersion programs.

**Discussion:** The results from the experiments and examples show that the integration of CLT, TBL, and technology can significantly enhance language acquisition in intensive programs. However, the success of these methods depends on several factors:

**1. Learner Burnout:** Intensive programs often demand long hours of study, which can lead to burnout. To mitigate this, course designers can introduce frequent breaks, mindfulness practices, and flexible learning options.

**3. Technological Access:** Not all learners may have equal access to technology. Offering offline resources, or designing programs with minimal reliance on digital tools, ensures all students can participate equally.

4. Addressing these challenges requires a balanced approach that combines high-quality pedagogy with learner support systems.

**Conclusion.** Modern teaching methods such as CLT, TBL, and technology integration offer promising solutions for intensive foreign language education. By focusing on practical language use, engaging learners in meaningful tasks, and incorporating technology, these methods foster rapid language acquisition. However, challenges such as learner fatigue and access to technology need to be addressed to maximize their effectiveness. Future research could focus on longitudinal studies to assess the long-term impact of these methods on language retention and fluency.

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