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стариий викладач кафедри українознавства та іноземних мов Навчально-наукового інституту права та підготовки фахівців для підрозділів Національної поліції Дніпропетровського державного університету внутрішніх справ

REVIEW OF THE MODERN MEDIA RESOURCES FOR LEARNING ENGLISH

The demands of modern society encourage the search for new technologies and methods that make it possible to teach and develop foreign language communication skills. You can learn English not only with the help of textbooks, but also by using the latest online resources and applications, which are designed specifically for easy and interesting learning. Pupils and students love gadgets, do not let their smartphones out of their hands and spend a lot of time near computers. They can be used with benefit. A number of works by foreign (for example, S. Terminasov, E. Polat, V. Hezergud, J. Shales, I. Smolyannikov) and domestic researchers (for example, L. Romanenko, I. Dychkivska, V Lapinsky, S. Nikolayeva, etc.).

The purpose of this article is to analyze the most current free online resources for learning English, with the help of which you can diversify your classes and homework.

One of the most famous platforms for learning English is Duolingo. The author of the project, launched in 2011, is Louis von Ahn from Carnegie Mellon University, who with a team of like-minded people created a resource that quickly gained global status and currently has the largest audience in the world. The developers of the platform claim that 34 hours spent together with a cheerful owl – the symbol of the application, 46 in terms of efficiency is not inferior to a semester of school classes. The resource can be used both for self-education and as a supplement to school education, the advantage of which is the ability to learn with different levels of language proficiency. The greatest attention is paid to written exercises and dictations, the development of speaking skills is in the background. Doing just 5-10 minutes a day (the teacher can choose the time independently), students will master the basic skills of writing and building sentences, learn new vocabulary. The program is created in the form of a tree of achievements. You can get to a new level only after gaining a certain number of points. This approach is an incentive for self-improvement. The teacher can combine students into groups, which allows comparing their results and progress. Timed training is interesting: the user has to answer 20 questions in 30 seconds, which encourages memorization of the material. Learning is gamified: for completing exercises, students receive game currency, lingots. Then they can be spent on purchases in the game store or gifted to other users.

English with Words is an application that allows you to practice words of a certain topic, learn correct pronunciation and spelling. First, the user familiarizes himself with the lexical set for a certain topic, listens to the pronunciation and pays attention to the spelling of words. Next, there is training of learned words, which is aimed at developing the level of language proficiency and motivation for self-control. The next stage is to improve the memorization of the spelling of the word, since the user is faced with the task of finding a word in a set of letters. The translation of words is studied with the help of exercises in which the user is asked to match the studied words in the "English - Ukrainian" format. The perception of a word by ear is automated by the exercise of reproducing the word in written form after listening to it. A similar skill is reinforced by listening techniques.

Another interesting resource that has its audience and supporters is LingQ. It provides a database of online lessons and a huge online library of materials. It is especially convenient to use the service mobile application for Android and iOS. The application allows you to read, translate and listen to various texts in English. The advantage of the program is the so-called «languages»: these are unfamiliar words selected by the user, which, when they appear again in a new text, will be highlighted in a certain color depending on the difficulty of memorization. The disadvantage of LingQ is that in the free version the number of created «languages» is limited. In addition, communication with teachers and verification of written tasks by experts are paid [3, p. 63].

Rosetta Stone is not just a service for learning a foreign language, it is a whole set of mobile applications for one of the most famous interactive textbooks. The advantage of Rosetta Stone is a unique technique that allows you to learn a language the way children do – intuitively, without grammar books and dictionaries. Such an approach is interesting and effective, because the feature of the program is the simulation of immersion in an English-speaking environment. On Rosetta Stone, there is a large set of interactive lessons in use, the purpose of which is to create an associative series. Rosetta Stone is suitable for both beginners and advanced users. With the help of a microphone, the program can evaluate the correct pronunciation. A trial version of this textbook with a limited number of basic lessons is offered free of charge [3, p. 61].

A kind of social network for those who want to learn English through communication with other people is HiNative. It is distinguished by the possibility of live communication with native speakers, which allows users to learn the correct pronunciation. The author of the resource is the Japanese developer Yanyang He, who created the well-known Lang-8 project started in March 2017. HiNative is a great option for extracurricular work and a great opportunity to provide users with an example of correct pronunciation. After registering in the application, students will be able to ask community members questions related to the translation of words or phrases, basic rules of grammar, correct pronunciation, writing skills. HiNative is interesting for all users, regardless of age, because almost everyone has experience in social networks.

The most famous and interesting resource for learning English among those analyzed by us, which is preferred by most teachers of Ukraine due to its functionality, is Lingualeo. Its learning methodology, as in Duolingo, is based on today popular gaming (while performing tasks, the user is constantly accompanied by the cheerful lion Leo). The founder of the resource is A. Abuldynasirov, who also worked on the creation of the well-known project «Language Speakers Club». It is effective due to the principles implemented in it («seven secrets of learning foreign languages»), such as: 1) motivation and drive; 2) perception of authentic, living language; 3) modeling and copying; 4) mutual influence; 5) optimal intensity; 6) regularity; 7) practical use and efficiency. The user must independently choose and process interesting materials, supplementing the vocabulary with new words, training their own competences with the help of passing trainings and tests. LinguaLeo users get access to a library of video, audio and text materials, interactive thematic courses (video and grammar), an individual dictionary with associations and pronunciation for each word, a set of exercises (listening, crossword, word translation), thematic glossaries, as well as a magazine achievements, which reflect real and possible progress in language learning.

Let analyze in detail the functions of this online resource.

- 1. First of all, the function of communication with other users who also study and practice English using this resource is available. The user can search and choose interlocutors. In the dialogue window, you can set the topic of communication (sports, movies, weather, regular chat), and also use the online chat room to develop a communicative culture. Messages can be translated if you communicate with a user with a high level of language proficiency. Unfamiliar words and expressions can, if necessary, be entered into an individual dictionary for further study and assimilation. Users with whom the student communicates can be added to a special group (the so-called «pride»). Everyone can communicate with each other, share achievements and new awards, which motivates to study the language more intensively.
- 2. Learning grammatical structures begins with theory and rules and is consolidated with special exercises that are directly related to the learned rules. After passing a certain grammar block, the user receives a general assessment of the level of knowledge acquisition. In pedagogical practice, this function can be used to control the assimilation of the material for example, as a ready-made test option after the presentation and practice of a certain grammatical construction.
- 3. All information on the site is structured by topics, so in the process of learning, the teacher can use certain elements (interactive, audio, visual) for inclusion in the lesson plan or for independent study at home. Video and audio materials are effective due to their authenticity, that is, they are compiled from original media sources (Voice of America, Stanford University video training course, etc.).
- 4. Vocabulary expansion occurs thanks to the consolidation of the so-called «dictionary sets» sorted by subject. All words have audio accompaniment. When studying words, they are in two statuses: «in process» and «processed». The site

automatically determines one of these statuses according to the user knowledge of the added word through verification through various exercises. Training takes place in several formats: depending on the type of exercises: translation of a word and several words; dictionary crossword; listening and dictation; translation speed exercises; perception of words by ear, etc.

5. The special interactivity of the resource is provided by the study of words, grammatical constructions and text structure with the help of songs. It follows the principle that the best way to learn a language is to hear it. Therefore, users have access to a database of video clips with the possibility of viewing the translation of song texts, highlighting special language techniques, learning new words and abbreviations used in songs [1, p. 35]. In fact, there are many mobile applications and sites that can be used during and outside of school.

We analyzed only a few of the most interesting options. Each of these resources is free (in some cases, paid materials are provided, their purchase is not mandatory) and available to everyone [2, p. 124]. Therefore, the analysis of the use of online resources for learning English allows us to conclude that this form of organization of education accelerates the formation and development of students skills and abilities in productive activities, increases motivation, interest in learning English, and stimulates the development of cognitive and creative activity. Communicating in a language environment, users find themselves in real life situations and connect to solving a wide range of realistic tasks. Thanks to this, students learn to respond spontaneously and adequately to cues, which stimulates the creation of original expressions, attention is primarily focused on the use of forms. Learning grammar takes place indirectly, excluding the actual study of grammatical rules. The advantage of the computer is that it is loyal to the answers, thanks to which the students independence develops and a favorable socialpsychological atmosphere is created in the class, giving students self-confidence, which is an important factor for the development of individuality [4, p. 40].

Thus, online resources are a source of additional information, a means of assimilation and repetition of learned lexical and grammatical material. They are an integral part of learning a foreign language and can be used as a means of authentic communication with native speakers on current topics, correspondence between individual students and between entire classes and schools, for the exchange of information between educational institutions of different cities or countries, participation in online conferences, seminars, webinars, etc.

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