

СЕКЦІЯ «АНГЛІЙСЬКА МОВА»

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PRESENTATION AS AN EFFECTIVE MEANS OF IMPROVING ENGLISH SPEAKING SKILLS

The learner-centered way and communicative approach in contemporary language teaching, English as well, help to gain and develop communicative competence. It means that, instead of concentrating on the acquisition of grammar and vocabulary, the communicative approach is aimed at developing the learner's competence to communicate in the target language, with an enhanced focus on real-life situations.

Presentations develop students' professional language competences, enabling them to function effectively in a culturally diverse academic and professional environment, promoting speaking skills. Speaking is the first way to interact with others in the social community and is defined as an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves producing, receiving and processing information. Its form and meaning are independent on the context in which it occurs, including the participants themselves, the physical environment and the purposes for speaking (Burns & Joyce, 19997). In order to speak fluently in English learners need to develop not only the knowledge of grammar, vocabulary and functional language, but also be appropriate in the given context.

Giving presentations is a good way to improve the skills mentioned above. Being a natural part of task based learning, they require the use of all language system areas, have value outside the language classroom and raise students' motivation. Furthermore, this type of work contributes to building confidence, develops a person's intellectual functions (analysis, synthesis, generalization, etc.), increases creative thinking and facilitates students' speech activity.

However there are some obstacles a teacher/learner can face while fulfilling such a task. Any presentation must be planned beforehand, has its own outline, aims and time management. Besides, there could appear problems in assessing the outcome, so a teacher needs to carefully consider the assessment criteria, so that s/he can give meaningful feedback.

All in all, a presentation is one of effective interactive teaching methods. It improves the educational process, consolidates and activates all the skills and abilities developed by the student in the process of foreign language learning.