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INNOVATION STRATEGIES FOR DEVELOPING ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPETENCE OF FUTURE TRANSLATORS IN THE DIGITAL EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

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Abstract. *The article analyses the methods and strategies for developing English language competence of future translators in the context of modern digital technologies. Particular attention is paid to the influence of digital tools and online resources on acquiring translation-related language skills. The authors explore the possibilities of using virtual communication environments to improve learning effectiveness, focusing on the advantages of interactive platforms, mobile applications, and online courses. The article emphasizes the importance of students' independent work in the translation field using digital tools. The authors highlight the need to integrate digital technologies into the educational process to train highly qualified translators who can work successfully in the context of globalization and international communication.*

The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages emphasizes that language plays a priority role in the formation of an educated and creative personality who can use the acquired knowledge in professional situations, engages in self-knowledge processes, stimulates self-actualization, and directs self-realization in the direction of integration caused by the latest intellectual, educational, scientific and technological environment' [5, p. 41]. In the context of the modern world, characterized by globalization and the growing influence of digital technologies, the role of language is defined as a key communication

mechanism. For future translators, proficiency in English is fundamental, as it opens up broad prospects for international communication and professional development.

An analysis of the scientific literature on foreign language teaching methods shows that a translator's English competence is a set of knowledge, skills, and abilities that allow them to effectively perform translation activities into English [1; 2; 4].

The article aims to reveal the methodological features of forming future translators' English-language competence from the digital aspect.

Translators play a key role in preserving cultural heritage by reproducing literary masterpieces, scientific research, and other texts that help people understand and appreciate the cultural context of other nations. In an increasingly globalized world, translators help to maintain links between different cultures and facilitate international communication and cooperation. Economic and social development also partly depends on translators, as they help companies expand their markets by translating products and services into different languages, which helps create new jobs and boost international trade. In addition, correct translation is key to avoiding misunderstandings and conflicts, especially in a political or diplomatic context. The importance of the role of interpreters is also manifested in protecting human rights and ensuring access to legal information for all, regardless of their language. Therefore, proper training of future translators is critical to ensuring effective intercultural communication and preserving global harmony and development.

Among the main components of a translator's English-language competence, scholars identify a high level of English language knowledge (perfect command of linguistic structures, grammar, vocabulary and phraseology of the English language); understanding of linguistic features and context (features of the source and target languages, as well as consideration of the context); cultural competence (understanding of cultural realities and traditions of both the source and target languages in order to reproduce the meaning of the text accurately); effective communication skills (high level of oral and written communication to interact with clients, authors of texts and other professional users); ability to use translation tools (skills in working with various translation programs and tools that help facilitate the translation process) [1; 2; 3].

In summary, the English-language competence of a translator is a comprehensive ability to possess language and professional skills that allow for the effective translation of texts from one language into another.

The methods of developing English-language competence of students in the field of translation, taking into account the digital aspect, include the development

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of language skills through online resources, practice through virtual communication environments, the use of digital tools for translation, and the adoption of cultural context through online resources.

Open access to online resources, such as video tutorials, audio materials, webinars, and language apps, enables future translators to improve their English language skills. They can learn the language conveniently and customize the educational process to suit their needs. Developing language skills through online resources has excellent potential for future translators. Free access to the Internet offers many opportunities to practice English, the primary target language of many translators.

Online English language courses available on platforms such as Coursera, EF English Live, or edX allow students to learn at any time that suits them. For example, Georgia Tech's "Improve Your English Communication Skills" course on Coursera covers grammar, written and oral communication, and is taught at a student's pace. Users can review the materials at their own pace, twice a day or several times a week, significantly increasing efficiency and motivation.

EF English Live uses the proprietary Efecta Hyperclass™ methodology, which combines one-to-one and group lessons, 24/7 support from certified teachers, and artificial intelligence technology for personalized feedback. The learning content includes role-playing games, interactive exercises, grammar labs, and over 2000 hours of self-study materials.

The platform is suitable for learning general and business English and preparing for international tests. One of the advantages is the opportunity to practice speaking with confirmed native speakers, which helps to develop confidence and pronunciation.

edX is a global educational platform founded by MIT and Harvard in 2012. Within edX, free and certified English as a Second Language (ESL) courses include video lectures, interactive exercises, discussion forums, and even online labs. Since 2024, AI translation has also been available, dynamically translating videos and course texts into Spanish and Arabic, with Portuguese, French, and other languages planned for 2025. Many courses can be taken free of charge in audit mode, and for a nominal fee, users can receive a verified certificate or even earn credits.

Mobile apps, such as Babbel or Memrise, allow students to learn even when they are on the move. Memrise uses a spaced repetition algorithm and mnemonic devices to reinforce vocabulary. At the same time, Babbel provides structured lessons with dialogues, grammar, and audio podcasts based on communicative methodology and speech recognition technology.

Learning through video and audio on YouTube and TED Talks allows students to immerse themselves in an authentic language environment. TED Talks, for

example, are known for their rich vocabulary, and students improve their listening skills and vocabulary by watching them. On YouTube, many channels such as English Addict or BBC Learning English offer short lessons explicitly designed for non-native speakers.

Social media can also be helpful for language learning: subscribing to English-language pages and interacting with native speakers develops language skills. Participation in language groups and forums where students can discuss and share knowledge also helps to develop language skills. In general, online resources provide many opportunities for effective English language development and the preparation of students in the field of translation for their professional work.

Virtual communication environments are becoming increasingly popular for future translators as they allow them to practice language skills in real-life situations with native speakers and other students. The advantages of using virtual communication environments for language practice include:

1. Exchange of ideas and experiences. Future translators can discuss various topics with other participants in virtual communicative environments, such as forums or specialized language platforms, which allows them to develop language skills and analytical and critical thinking.

2. Virtual group classes. Some online platforms offer the possibility of participating in virtual group classes where students can communicate with the teacher and each other in real-time, which allows them to practice the language in authentic situations and receive instant feedback.

3. Online chats and voice calls. Virtual chats and voice calls allow students to communicate with each other or native speakers in real-time. This helps to improve oral communication skills and language comprehension.

4. Collaborative work on projects. Virtual communication environments can be used to work together on language projects or assignments. Students can exchange ideas, edit text, and help each other solve problems.

5. Acquaintance with cultural peculiarities. In addition to the language aspect, virtual communication environments provide an opportunity to get acquainted with other countries' cultural peculiarities and traditions, which is important for future translators as they learn to understand the context and nuances of speech, which are key to high-quality translation.

Virtual communication environments, such as social networks, forums, online communities, etc., create a unique opportunity for translation students to improve their language skills and expand their understanding of cultural contexts. Students can observe how people communicate, how they express their thoughts and feelings, what topics are important to them, and how they express their views. This helps translators convey the meaning of a text correctly and preserve its nuances and expressiveness within the cultural context.

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Thus, virtual communication environments are an effective tool for practicing future translators' language skills, as they provide an opportunity to communicate in real-time with native speakers and other students from around the world, as well as expand their understanding of cultural peculiarities and traditions, which is an important aspect of successful translation.

Digital translation tools obviously play an important role in the training of future translators. Online dictionaries, translators, and translation platforms are becoming indispensable in helping students quickly find equivalents and improve their skills. They allow future translators to get instant access to a wide range of words and expressions and compare different translation options to ensure the accuracy and naturalness of the text. It is worth noting that these tools provide additional features, such as automatic translation, grammar, and stylistic checking, which help future professionals not only translate texts but also improve their general language skills.

However, it is important to remember that digital tools have their limitations, and they cannot always convey all the shades of meaning and nuances of language. Therefore, it is important to develop the technical skills of using these tools, analytical thinking, and understanding of the language in context.

It is worth noting that for a successful translation, it is important to understand the linguistic and cultural context. Online resources such as films, music, literature, and news allow students to learn and understand English-speaking culture and its peculiarities.

It is important to emphasize the independent work of students in the field of translation with the help of digital tools. Digital resources provide instant access to various information sources, such as dictionaries, translators, and learning materials, allowing them to use their time to find the information they need quickly. It is also worth paying attention to the variety of learning tools offered by digital resources, which cater to future translators' different learning styles and needs. Students can use interactive exercises, video tutorials, games, tests, etc., which ensures interest and variety in their studies.

Independent work allows students to learn at their own pace and monitor their progress. They can use digital tools anytime and anywhere, which promotes flexibility and self-discipline. Practical skills and confidence in their abilities are gained through the opportunities for practical tasks offered by digital resources. This approach helps translation students learn English effectively and acquire the necessary skills for their future professional activities.

Thus, forming future translators' English language competence in the digital aspect is a complex and multifaceted process. Using digital technologies and online resources allows students to develop their language skills, practice

communication, and study the cultural context of the English-speaking world. This approach helps to train qualified and competent translators who will be able to work successfully in today's global market.

The prospect of further research will be to study the methodological features of developing future translators' English communicative competence.

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