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## USEFUL EXPERIENCE OF ONLINE LEARNING

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### Abstract

It is hardly imagine our world without Internet: modern technologies have penetrated into different spheres from common life to industrial enterprises. The other place, where applications of IT are widely used, seems to be education. The online learning combined with the involvement of a wide variety of methods in training different subjects (including English) has become a leading dominant in modern education during the pandemic COVID-19. This useful experience will allow to implement it now in different situations, that can immerge unexpectedly or sometimes just for convenience. Being skillful and equipped with corresponding platforms (such as ZOOM, Moodle, Teams, Kahoots and many others) and methods suitable in such situations, teacher can make up an atmosphere of communication based on diverse activities online. The natural environment of speaking the language being studied will be the most effective type of interaction of students within the framework of online lesson. Basic knowledge is the basis for obtaining new competences through discussion of certain topical issues using the tasks set by teacher as well as through illustrative, audio and video materials which are more available in this case. Besides the teacher plays an important role as a mentor of students' communicative activity and creating a favorable atmosphere for the active involvement of all participants into the process of language acquisition in specific conditions online. The integrative approach will allow to highlight the most significant details in both advantages and disadvantages of online training and to analyze them respectively. Taking into consideration the obtained experience there is a certain possibility to summarize it in the frames of this article.

**Keywords:** online learning, pandemic COVID-19, professional competence, audio and video materials, interaction, communicative activity, integrative approach.

## ОНЛАЙН ОҚЫТУ ПАЙДАЛЫ ТӘЖІРИБЕСІ

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### Анатпа

Біздің әлемді Интернетсіз елестету қиын: заманауи технологиялар күнделікті өмірден өнеркәсіптік кәсіпорындарға дейін әртүрлі салаларға еніп кетті. IT қолданбалары кеңінен қолданылатын тағы бір сала – білім беру. Әртүрлі пәндерді (соның ішінде ағылшын тілін) оқытудың көптеген әдістерін тартумен біріктірілген онлайн оқыту COVID-19 пандемиясы жағдайында заманауи білім берудегі жетекші басымдыққа айналды. Бұл пайдалы тәжірибе оны күтпеген жерден, кейде жай ғана ынғайлы болу үшін пайда болуы мүмкін әртүрлі жағдайларда қазір енгізуге мүмкіндік береді. Мұндай жағдайларда сәйкес платформалардың (мысалы, ZOOM, Moodle, Teams, Kahoots және көптеген басқалары) және сәйкес әдістердің дағдылары мен білімі арқылы мұғалім әртүрлі онлайн әрекеттерге негізделген қарым-қатынас атмосферасын құра алады. Оқыту тіліндегі қарым-қатынастың табиғи ортасы онлайн сабақ аясында студенттердің өзара әрекеттесуінің ең тиімді түрі болады. Базалық білім мұғалім қойған тапсырмаларды пайдалана отырып, белгілі бір өзекті мәселелерді талқылау арқылы, сонымен қатар бұл жағдайда қол жетімді иллюстрациялық, аудио және бейнематериалдарды пайдалану арқылы жаңа құзыреттерді алудың негізі болып табылады. Сонымен қатар, оқытушы студенттердің коммуникативтік іс-әрекетінің тәлімгері ретінде маңызды рөл атқарады және нақты желілік жағдайларда барлық қатысушылардың тілді меңгеру процесіне белсенді қатысуы үшін қолайлы жағдай жасайды. Интегративті тәсіл бізге онлайн оқытудың

артықшылықтары мен кемшіліктеріндегі ең маңызды бөлшектерді бөліп көрсетуге және оларды сәйкесінше талдауға мүмкіндік береді. Алынған тәжірибені ескере отырып, оны осы мақаланың аясында жалпылауға белгілі бір мүмкіндік бар.

**Кілт сөздер:** онлайн оқыту, COVID-19 пандемиясы, кәсіби құзыреттілік, аудио және бейне материалдар, өзара әрекеттесу, коммуникативті белсенділік, интегративті тәсіл.

## **ПОЛЕЗНЫЙ ОПЫТ ОНЛАЙН ОБУЧЕНИЯ**

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### **Аннотация**

Трудно представить наш мир без Интернета: современные технологии проникли в самые разные сферы от быденной жизни до промышленных предприятий. Другой областью, где широко используются приложения ИТ, является образование. Онлайн-обучение в сочетании с привлечением самых разнообразных методов обучения различным предметам (в том числе английскому языку) стало ведущей доминантой в современном образовании в условиях пандемии COVID-19. Этот полезный опыт позволит реализовать его уже сейчас в разных ситуациях, которые могут всплывать неожиданно, а иногда просто для удобства. Обладая навыками и владея соответствующими платформами (такими как ZOOM, Moodle, Teams, Kahoots и многими другими) и подходящими в таких ситуациях методами, преподаватель может создать атмосферу общения на основе разноплановой онлайн-активности. Естественная среда общения на изучаемом языке будет наиболее эффективным видом взаимодействия учащихся в рамках онлайн-урока. Базовые знания являются основой для получения новых компетенций путем обсуждения определенных актуальных вопросов с использованием задач, поставленных преподавателем, а также с помощью более доступных в данном случае иллюстративных, аудио- и видеоматериалов. Кроме того, преподаватель играет важную роль наставника коммуникативной деятельности студентов и создания благоприятной атмосферы для активного вовлечения всех участников в процесс овладения языком в конкретных условиях онлайн. Интегративный подход позволит выделить наиболее значимые детали как в преимуществах, так и в недостатках онлайн-обучения и соответственно проанализировать их. Учитывая полученный опыт, есть определенная возможность обобщить его в рамках данной статьи.

**Ключевые слова:** онлайн-обучение, пандемия COVID-19, профессиональная компетентность, аудио- и видеоматериалы, взаимодействие, коммуникативная деятельность, интегративный подход.

### **Introduction**

Studying at a university is a conscious decision of young people to realize their potential in acquiring a future profession. In our country, the most favorable conditions are being created for the implementation of these achievements. The quality of education is growing. One of the factors that rapidly changed the situation, making a decisive breakthrough in learning technologies, was the situation that had to arise during the Covid-19 pandemic. The traditional methods and forms of offline learning in the conditions that developed during this period were replaced by distance learning, which became the leading one. The benefits of eLearning far outweigh those of traditional methods. As with most teaching methods, there are a number of positives and negatives in online learning. Understanding these positives and negatives will help educational institutions to develop strategies for more effective ones to ensure lifelong study of students and undergraduates.

In the current era of digital life, almost everything of life depends on the internet (Vella-Brodrick and Klein, 2010; Choshin and Ghaffari, 2017) [1], [2]. “We reject kings, presidents and voting. We believe in: rough consensus and running code” [3, p. 171].

Besides, it is observed that English learning apps on mobile devices are increasingly employed in English classes, which make students learn English more enjoyably and actively, facilitating the engagement in learning of students (Yen et al., 2018; Anthony et al., 2019; Wong et al., 2020) [4], [5], [6]. As Castle and McGuire, pointed out, “e-learning can enhance the quality of learning experiences because it provides flexible access to content and instruction at any time, from any place, and enables students to maintain the learning outcome equivalent to face-to-face instruction” [7, p. 36].

One of the most frequently used terms after the pandemic is the “new Normal”. The “New Normal” in education is the increased use of online learning tools. The COVID-19 pandemic has given rise to new ways of learning. Educational institutions around the world are looking for online learning platforms to continue the learning process for students. The “New Normal” is now a redefined concept of education based on online learning. Today, digital learning has become an indispensable resource for schoolchildren and students around the world.

For many educational institutions, this is a completely new type of education that they have had to accept. Online learning is now applicable not only to the study of academic subjects, but also extends to extracurricular activities. The demand for online learning has grown significantly during the pandemic and will continue to grow in the future.

In online learning, as in traditional learning, we observe a number of positive and negative aspects. Identifying and understanding these positives and negatives will help us to develop a more effective learning strategy.

#### **Benefits of online learning in education**

1. **Efficiency.** Online learning provides an effective way to teach students. Online learning has a number of tools such as videos, PDFs, podcasts and platforms that can be used in the training. Going beyond traditional textbooks and applying online resources, the teacher can work more effectively.

2. **Availability in time and place.** Another benefit of online learning is that students can attend classes from anywhere. It also allows schools to attract rather more students than being limited by geographic boundaries. In addition, online lectures can be recorded, archived and published for later use. This allows students to access learning materials at the best time and place.

3. **Cost-effectiveness.** Another advantage of online learning is the lower financial costs. Online learning is much more affordable compared to physical learning. This is because online learning eliminates the cost of student transportation, meals and boarding. In addition, all course and study materials are available online, creating a paperless learning environment that is not only more cost-effective, but also environmentally friendly.

4. **Attendance improvement.** Online classes can be taken at home or at another location on one’s choice, so students are less likely to miss classes.

5. **Suitable for a variety of learning styles.** Each student has their own way and style of learning. Some learn visually while others prefer to learn through audio. Similarly, some feel comfortable in the classroom, while others behave in isolation.

#### **Disadvantages of online learning.**

1. **Focusing on the screen.** For many students, one of the biggest challenges in online learning is the difficulty of focusing on a screen for a long period of time. In this situation they are also easily distracted by social media or other websites. Therefore online lessons should be clear, engaging and interactive for students in order to focus them on the subject.

2. **Technical problems.** Another major problem with online learning is the internet connection. Although Internet penetration has increased rapidly in recent years, a constant

connection with sufficient speed is a problem in small towns. Without a permanent Internet connection for teachers and students, there may be no continuity in learning that badly harms the educational process.

3. **Feeling of isolation:** students can learn a lot from each other being physically in class. However, in an online course, physical interaction is minimal, which creates a sense of isolation. In this situation, it is extremely important to use other forms of communication between the students themselves. This may include online messaging, email, videoconferencing and provide face-to-face communication, reducing feelings of isolation.

4. **Training of teachers.** Online learning requires a basic understanding of how to use digital forms of learning. It is important to invest into upgrading teachers' knowledge of the latest technology to conduct their online classes successfully.

5. **Computer time management.** Increasing computer time is one of the biggest problems and disadvantages of online learning. The development of poor posture and other complications due to prolonged sitting in front of the screen becomes a serious hindrance to health. Regular breaks for recreation may become a reasonable solution of the problem.

As described by some scholars (Osguthorpe and Graham, 2003; Garrison and Kanuka, 2004), it is of great importance to find the "harmonious balance" of "thoughtful integration" between face-to-face and online components [8], [9].

#### **Methods of research**

On the basis of empirical data, the importance of scientific methodology in teaching students online is substantiated, and the positive and negative sides are presented from the point of view of teachers and students. The evidence of a more positive assessment of e-learning compared to traditional learning is confirmed by the conducted research through the following methods: observation, surveys, experiments, tests and basic statistics. The strengthening of the knowledge intensity of education is observed in the course of the study of the given material by scientific methods, which are largely based on an empirical and statistical understanding of the situation, while at the same time, the maximum possible level of acceptance (and little resistance) is observed among students. Besides in the frames of this article we used the following methods of scientific research: hypotheses, everydayhypotheses, difference hypothesis, quantitative research, closed question, quality criteria (objectivity, validity, reliability, frequency distribution).

#### **Results of research**

These mentioned above techniques applied in practice confirm real promotion of students' liberation, their inspiration for active participation in activities with good motivation and positive emotions in the course of online training. As a matter of fact the favorable atmosphere of easy communication in the frames of distance learning is easily achieved through well-organized lesson by skilled teacher putting in focus students' interests confirmed by new technologies.

#### **Discussion**

Online methods of training are in focus of discussion during the last decades. Modern teaching is seen as an active communication process where we can therefore distinguish variable effective forms of student interaction both group and individual work applied in the conditions of online learning. However, teachers should look for appropriate methods in different situations.

#### **Conclusion**

Summarizing everything it is necessary to mention some specific features of personal account, which are considered to be the most convenient:

- storing materials contained in special place;
- opportunity of loading several lessons at once provides planning independent schedule and studying them in advance under teacher's supervision;
- automatic storing and saving all ready-made tasks;
- opportunity of downloading files and working them offline;
- no need to use e-mail;
- systematized files can be returned to certain place of storage.

As a matter of fact, the online learning system, with its many options and resources, can be personalized in many ways. This is the best way to create the perfect learning environment tailored to the needs of each individual student.

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