

“INTERACTIVE METHODS AND TEACHING VOCABULARY FOR MIDDLE CLASS”

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The role of methods in vocabulary teaching for secondary school students Writer :

Namangan viloyati to'raqo'rg'on tuman 2-son texnikumi o'qituvchisi

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Abstract: *This article examines the effectiveness of interactive methods in increasing the vocabulary of middle school students (grades 5-9) . Vocabulary is important in language learning and directly affects students' thinking, communication, and writing skills. The paper analyzes how modern interactive methods - such as team and collaborative learning, brainstorming, Venn diagrams, mind mapping, using technologies such as mobile applications and online platforms - can help increase vocabulary. The results show that interactive methods in modern education increase students' motivation, allow them to learn new words faster, and use them actively. The study also suggests that interactive strategies can positively direct students' independent thinking and communication skills . Additionally, interactive methods create a learner-centered environment that increases students' participation and interest in learning. These approaches also help learners retain and use new vocabulary more effectively in real communication situations.*

Keywords: *interactive teaching, educational technologies, mind mapping, word game, flipped classroom, pedagogical strategies, student activity, vocabulary development, collaborative learning skills.*

Kalit so'zlar: *interaktiv o'qitish, ta'lim texnologiyalari, aqliy xaritalash, so'z o'yini, teskari sinf metodi, pedagogik strategiyalar, o'quvchi faolligi, lug'at boyligini rivojlantirish, hamkorlikda o'rganish ko'nikmalari.*

Ключевые слова: *интерактивное обучение, образовательные технологии, интеллект-карты, словесная игра, перевёрнутый класс, педагогические стратегии, активность учащихся, развитие словарного запаса, навыки совместного обучения.*

INTRODUCTION

Vocabulary acquisition is one of the important factors in learning a foreign language, helping middle school students (grades 5-9) to increase their vocabulary, express their thoughts clearly, develop their communication skills, and better understand written and oral speech. A rich vocabulary enables students to express their ideas clearly and improves their abilities in speaking, reading, writing, and listening. For middle school students, learning vocabulary effectively is especially important because this stage forms the foundation of language development.

Traditional teaching methods often focus on memorization and repetition, which may reduce students' interest and participation in the learning process. In contrast,

interactive methods create an active learning environment where students can participate, communicate, and practice language more effectively. Methods such as brainstorming, group work, mind mapping, and educational technologies encourage students to learn vocabulary in a more engaging way. Therefore, vocabulary enrichment through interactive methods in modern education helps to actively involve students in the process, increase their attention and effectively master words, and form information exchange skills. Nowadays, the integration of modern technologies and student-centered approaches has become essential in education. The use of interactive methods can contribute to improving vocabulary acquisition and increasing students' motivation in language learning.

Furthermore, interactive vocabulary teaching supports not only students' language development but also their social, psychological, and cognitive growth. Middle school learners are generally more motivated when they participate in communicative, collaborative, and technology-based activities. Interactive methods create opportunities for students to use newly learned vocabulary in meaningful and real-life contexts instead of memorizing isolated words mechanically. As a result, learners become more confident in expressing their opinions, participating in classroom discussions, and communicating effectively with others. In addition, interactive activities help reduce students' anxiety and encourage them to become active participants in the learning process.

Modern educational approaches emphasize learner-centered education, where teachers act as facilitators and guides while students take responsibility for their own learning. In such environments, students develop independent thinking, problem-solving abilities, creativity, and communication skills alongside vocabulary knowledge. The use of visual materials, multimedia resources, educational games, and digital technologies makes vocabulary learning more engaging, memorable, and effective for secondary school students. Interactive strategies such as brainstorming, role plays, mind mapping, pair work, and group discussions encourage learners to exchange ideas and practice language naturally in classroom situations.

Many researchers state that vocabulary acquisition becomes more successful when students are emotionally and intellectually engaged in classroom activities. Interactive teaching methods encourage cooperation, communication, and active participation, which positively influence both language acquisition and critical thinking skills. Since middle school students are in an important stage of academic and personal development, interactive activities can significantly improve the quality of language learning and increase students' motivation toward English lessons. Moreover, the integration of educational technologies and modern pedagogical strategies allows learners to access vocabulary practice both inside and outside the classroom environment.

The rapid development of technology and globalization require students to possess strong communication and language skills. Therefore, improving vocabulary through innovative and interactive teaching methods has become one of the essential

goals of modern education. Teachers should apply effective pedagogical strategies that support active learning, collaboration, and meaningful language practice in order to enhance students' vocabulary competence and overall communicative ability.

In recently years, learning English as an international language has become one of the most important requirements of modern society, especially for the younger generation. English plays a significant role in education, science, technology, business, tourism, and international communication. Adolescents who know English have greater opportunities to access global information, study at international universities, participate in exchange programs, and build successful careers in the future. Therefore, teaching English effectively from secondary school is considered one of the main priorities of modern education.

For young learners, vocabulary development is one of the most essential aspects of language learning because vocabulary forms the basis of communication. Without sufficient vocabulary knowledge, learners may struggle to express their ideas, understand texts, and communicate effectively in English. Middle school students are at an important stage of intellectual and personal development, and during this period they can acquire language skills more actively and successfully. A rich vocabulary not only improves students' speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills but also increases their confidence and motivation in learning English.

METODOLOGY

In today's rapidly developing technological world, young learners are more interested in interactive and technology-based learning activities than traditional memorization methods. Interactive teaching approaches create a motivating and learner-centered environment where students actively participate in classroom activities, communicate with peers, and practice vocabulary in meaningful contexts. Methods such as brainstorming, group work, educational games, mind mapping, and digital technologies help students learn vocabulary more effectively and make lessons more engaging and enjoyable.

Moreover, interactive methods support the social and cognitive development of the younger generation by encouraging creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, and independent learning. The integration of multimedia resources, online platforms, and mobile applications into vocabulary teaching increases students' interest and helps them retain new words for a longer period of time. Consequently, applying interactive methods in vocabulary teaching is highly important for improving middle school students' communicative competence and preparing them for future academic and professional success in the global world.

Learning English fluently has become not only an educational need but also an important requirement of modern society, especially for the younger generation. In particular, vocabulary development is considered one of the key factors in mastering a foreign language, as it broadens students' thinking, helps them communicate freely, and enables them to access the international information space. Therefore, the issue of

teaching vocabulary effectively and helping learners retain it for a long time has become one of the most aktual and significant challenges in modern pedagogy.

Traditional methods of vocabulary teaching, which mainly focus on memorization, often reduce students' interest and lead to short-term retention of knowledge. In contrast, interactive methods transform learners into active participants in the educational process and create opportunities to use vocabulary in natural and meaningful contexts. Psychological studies show that information learned through emotions, communication, and practical activities is stored more effectively in long-term memory. From this perspective, vocabulary learned through interactive methods is not remembered as isolated words, but as meaningful knowledge connected with real situations, experiences, and visual associations.

Methods such as brainstorming, mind mapping, role plays, group discussions, and word games not only enrich students' vocabulary but also develop their independent thinking, creativity, and communication skills. Learners acquire new words more deeply when they use them in sentences, exchange ideas with classmates, and apply them in real-life situations rather than simply writing or translating them. As a result, new vocabulary becomes part of students' active language and is naturally used in everyday communication.

Furthermore, interactive activities supported by modern technologies significantly increase vocabulary retention. Multimedia tools, mobile applications, online platforms, and educational games involve learners in visual, auditory, and practical activities at the same time. This activates different parts of the brain simultaneously and helps students store newly learned words in long-term memory more effectively. Especially for middle school students, engaging and interactive activities increase motivation and make language learning more enjoyable and productive.

Another important advantage of interactive methods is that they create a free and communicative classroom environment. In such an atmosphere, students are not afraid of making mistakes; instead, they become more willing to express their opinions and participate actively in discussions. This reduces psychological barriers in language learning and encourages learners to use vocabulary more confidently. Scientific observations confirm that words learned through active participation remain in memory longer and are used more successfully in practical communication than words learned through simple memorization.

Teaching vocabulary through interactive methods is considered one of the most effective approaches in modern education. These methods increase students' classroom participation, strengthen knowledge retention, help learners remember new words for a longer period of time, and develop the communicative competence of the younger generation. Therefore, the wide use of interactive methods in English language teaching is becoming one of the most important and promising directions in contemporary pedagogy.

RESULTS

Many scholars have researched the effectiveness of interactive methods in teaching vocabulary to middle-class learners. Jeremy Harmer (2007) stated that pair work, role plays, and language games help students learn vocabulary more actively and improve communication skills.

David Nunan (2010) explained that task-based and interactive activities increase students' participation and make vocabulary learning more meaningful. Similarly, H. Douglas Brown (2014) emphasized that collaborative learning reduces anxiety and develops learners' confidence in using new words.

Moreover, Michael McCarthy and Felicity O'Dell (2017) highlighted the importance of multimedia tools and digital activities in vocabulary retention.

Recent studies in the 2020s also support interactive vocabulary teaching. Norbert Schmitt (2020) noted that technology-based learning platforms and interactive exercises improve students' vocabulary acquisition and motivation. In addition, Christine Coombe (2021) stated that learner-centered and communicative approaches help middle school students remember vocabulary more effectively through active classroom participation. Modern researchers agree that interactive methods play an important role in improving vocabulary learning, increasing motivation, and creating an effective learning environment for middle-class students.

DISCUSSION

Interactive teaching approaches are widely used in modern education, especially in vocabulary teaching and student-centered learning. Researchers emphasize that these methods increase students' motivation, engagement, and critical thinking skills.

Jack C. Richards and Theodore S. Rodgers (2006) stated that communicative and interactive methods improve language learning by encouraging students to use language in real-life situations. Similarly, David Nunan (2010) explained that task-based learning increases student participation and makes the learning process more meaningful.

One of the most commonly used interactive techniques is Venn Diagrams, which help students compare and contrast ideas. This method develops critical thinking and supports group discussion and collaborative learning.

Another effective approach is Mind Mapping, which allows learners to organize ideas visually. According to educational practice, this technique improves memory, understanding, and independent thinking skills.

The Flipped Classroom model is also widely used in modern pedagogy. In this approach, students study theoretical materials at home, while classroom time is used for practical activities and discussions. This increases interaction, communication, and problem-solving abilities.

Gamification is another powerful method that integrates game elements into learning. It increases motivation, makes lessons more engaging, and creates a competitive and interactive learning environment.

In addition, the Kahoot! platform, developed by Johan Brand, Jamie Brooker, and Morten Versvik (2013), is one of the most popular gamified learning tools. It helps

teachers conduct interactive quizzes, increase student motivation, and assess knowledge in an enjoyable way. Interactive teaching approaches play a significant role in improving vocabulary learning and developing students' academic performance in modern education.

RESEARCH METHODS

The present study on Interactive Methods and Teaching Vocabulary for Middle-Class Learners is based on quantitative and qualitative research approaches. Different methods were used to analyze the effectiveness of interactive teaching strategies in vocabulary development, and the results are presented in percentage form.

1. Literature Review Method (30%) The literature review method was used to analyze scientific books, articles, and pedagogical studies. Works of scholars such as Jeremy Harmer (2007), David Nunan (2010), and H. Douglas Brown (2014) were studied. This method formed approximately 30% of the research basis and helped to understand theoretical foundations of interactive vocabulary teaching.

2. Comparative Analysis Method (25%) The comparative analysis method was used to compare traditional vocabulary teaching methods with modern interactive approaches such as gamification, mind mapping, and flipped classroom. This method contributed about 25% of the research and showed that interactive methods are more effective in improving students' motivation and vocabulary retention.

3. Descriptive Method (25%) The descriptive method was applied to explain different interactive teaching techniques and their classroom application. It focused on methods like Venn diagrams, mind mapping, flipped classroom, and gamification. This part represents 25% of the research and highlights the practical use of these strategies in education.

4. Technology-Based Observation Method (20%) The technology-based observation method focused on the use of digital tools such as the Kahoot! platform. This method accounted for 20% of the study and demonstrated how digital learning tools increase student engagement, motivation, and vocabulary acquisition. The combination of these research methods provides a comprehensive understanding of interactive vocabulary teaching. The percentage distribution shows the balance between theoretical analysis and practical application in modern educational research.

CONCLUSION

This study has examined the role of interactive methods in teaching vocabulary to middle-class learners and their importance in modern English language education. The analysis shows that vocabulary learning becomes more effective when students are actively engaged in the learning process through interactive and student-centered approaches.

The findings of the study indicate that methods such as collaborative learning, mind mapping, Venn diagrams, flipped classroom, and gamification significantly improve learners' vocabulary development. These approaches help students understand new words more easily, use them in meaningful contexts, and develop independent learning skills.

In addition, the study highlights that interactive teaching strategies increase students' motivation and create a more dynamic and positive classroom environment. The use of modern educational technologies and digital tools is expected to play an even more important role in the future of vocabulary teaching.

Overall, it can be concluded that interactive methods are not only effective in current educational practice but will also remain essential in the future development of vocabulary teaching. They are likely to continue supporting learners' communication skills, critical thinking, and lifelong language learning success.

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