

SOME TEACHING PRINCIPLES OF READING IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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Abstract:

Some teaching advices for improvement reading in English language

Key words:

Foreign language, semantic perception, technical aspects, dictionary, vocabulary, structure of language, text, grammatical constructions, expressions.

When we study foreign language, we study not only a set of vocabulary and grammar, but we in any case come across the culture and peculiarities of the mentality of the people who speak this language. The best way to learn a language and culture is reading in the original. In order to read in a foreign language, we must first learn to read in that language¹. English language has over 1.100 ways to record 44 individual sounds – more than any other language². At the initial stage of learning English, you inevitably have to deal with the differences between your native language and a foreign one. And the first such differences between Russian and English are revealed as soon as you start learning to read in English.³ Have some teaching principles of reading in English language: **Semantic perception, technical aspects, English reading books and others materials.**

Semantic perception

Semantic reading in English lessons is of decisive importance for adapting thinking to a new linguistic sphere, since, in addition to translating foreign words into the native language, it serves as an analytical and critical mechanism for perceiving material, as opposed to superficial or selective familiarization. The semantic reading strategy includes:

- Understanding words in the text and their sentence complexes.
- Revealing the sequential presentation, the correlation between the beginning and the end of the logical chain, the ability of prediction the development of the narrative.
- Determination of the problematics of the text, its paramount idea, the formation of key theses and the allocation of secondary information.
- Feeling emotional shades, in other words the state of mind of the characters, the motivation of author.
- Be able to distinguish objective facts from subjective judgments.

Such a complex of information perception requires a combination of several approaches to working with text: 1) Imagine what is being said. When people told about a yellow oblong fruit in a peel, you represent a banana and the English “banana” should evoke the same associations. Instead of cramming a word, imagine a scene of how you interact with its meaning, and depict the text with history. A sentence like “Bill went to work” will remain an empty template until you animate it. What was mood of Bill before work? How does he get to her? What is his profession? Imagine friends and familiar places or create vivid assessments in your imagination. 2) Read the text without looking into the dictionary. Try to guess what the speech is about, choose the meaning of words, try to visualize abstract images. For example: “At holiday party, Bill gave her a book with dedication” – if we assume

¹<https://ienglish.ru/blog/interesno-ob-angliiskom/kak-viuchit-angliiskiy-bistro-samomu/kak-bistro-nauchitsia-chitat-po-angliiski>

²<https://skyeng.ru/articles/pravila-chteniya-anglijskogo-yazyka>

³<https://lim-english.com/posts/pravila-chteniya-angliiskogo-yazika-dlya-nachinaushih/>

that the unfamiliar word directly refers to the book, a handwritten dedication immediately comes to mind.3) Write down a unfamiliar word in the dictionary, use it in context, and then re-read the text.4) Consider what you read. Go through the sequence of events in your head, discuss with the author if necessary. 5) Rate the information. Describe the impressions of story, compelling content points, and helpful ideas, including those that relate solely to the structure of the language, such as grammatical constructions.

Technical aspects

For the reading process to be of maximum benefit, you need to develop skills that allow you to learn knowledge with less effort and faster.

1) Learn phonetic principles rather than sounding the pronunciation of every word. There are exceptions in every language, but in most cases, knowing all 44 English sounds, you can read almost any unknown word. 2) Remove your accent. Reading to oneself does not require oral perfection, but mispronunciation is fraught with communication difficulties. 3) Learn grammar. Without an accurate understanding of speech structures and the use of tenses, the principle of reading is distorted. An intuitive approach should always be reinforced by a rule. 4) Replenish your stock. A native speaker picks up every little detail of native speech, while a foreigner with excellent English may come across an unfamiliar word that every child knows. 5) Automate the process, read 1-2 hours a day to increase the pace and speed of perception. Practice reading each text in repetitions, getting to the point and avoiding hesitation.⁴

How to learn to read and understand English using a dictionary

At the stage when reading the English text is already possible but the meaning of some words is not yet clear, it is better to use a dictionary.

Most teachers are against reading with a dictionary in order to try to understand the meaning of yet unknown words from the context.

Such methods are true for those who are learning to speak rather than read, while replacing unfamiliar words with synonyms in order to accelerate the understanding of English speech.

This approach is not suitable for reading. Here, an incomprehensible combination of words can be the main one, and if their meaning is unclear, the whole essence of the sentence is lost. And if such words are repeated in any of the texts, then it is difficult to grasp its meaning at all.

Likewise, in all sentences there are secondary words that complement the meaning. You can skip them if the very idea of what was said is clear to you.

Using of vocabulary is necessary both for understanding new words and for memorizing them. Therefore, when reading text with incomprehensible words, write them down on paper several times. And ideally, makes sentences with these words as in the process of writing the words are memorized faster.⁵

Why You Need To Read Books In English

Reading in English is necessary because it contributes to the development of two important skills at once. Firstly, you learn to speak correctly (when reading the text, a person will certainly pay attention to grammatical constructions, using of temporary forms, and so on). When a person reads an English text, his visual memory is activated. This means that he unconsciously remembers constructions that are often found in the language.

Another reason to read more is to learn new words. Although it seems that what you read is immediately forgotten, but it is not. Associative memory will allow you to memorize some words based on the plot

⁴<https://lim-english.com/posts/obychenie-chteniu-na-angliiskom/>

⁵<https://www.englishpatient.org/articles/kak-nauchitsya-chitat-na-angliiskom-yazyke>

How do we choose books?

Most of people find it difficult to read in a foreign language at first. Understanding the English text “on the fly” is a daunting task for beginners. But you should go ahead and try to read at least a few pages. You will soon get used to it and the text will be easier to read.

For reading to be effective, it is important to choose the right book. The first thing to pay attention to is the complexity of the text, which should correspond to your level of knowledge of the language. For those who are just starting to learn English, it is better to pay attention to fairy tales. They are written in a simpler language, without complex constructions and expressions. If you are studying English for a professional purpose, it is right to study literature in your specialty. To master the spoken language, you can read books by modern authors.

It is equally important that reading in English is enjoyable. Therefore, it is desirable that the work interests you. And this is only possible if you have chosen the correct book in terms of complexity and understand what it is about. In order to understand whether you have made a good choice, start reading. If after a couple of pages, you still do not understand what is happening in the book there are many constructions and words that you do not understand, it is better to choose something easier.⁶ In fact, there are a lot of rules for reading in English and exceptions to them, we have considered only the main ones. It is completely optional to teach them all. As you memorize new words, memorize their pronunciation and spelling immediately. This way you will not have an urgent need to master all the reading rules.⁷ Of course, you may still have some problems, so feel free to ask for help! If some part of the text seems too difficult for you, try asking a friend, native speaker or teacher to compose an explanation or summary of the text for you; or just search the internet for it⁸.

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