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The importance of applying innovative technologies in teaching and learning languages in higher education.(Using the examples of Jack London's short stories)

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Abstract: This thesis explores how Jack London's short stories can be more effectively taught to students majoring in philology and pedagogy at the higher education level by utilizing innovative technologies. The focus is on making these stories more accessible and comprehensible through modern educational tools, thereby fostering students' interest in language learning and deepening their appreciation for the writer's work. Additionally, the study highlights the importance of aligning with contemporary trends to train knowledgeable and skilled professionals. It also discusses the benefits of incorporating modern technologies into the classroom, using interactive communication methods, engaging games, and other stimulating tools to enhance the quality and effectiveness of education. The research aims to present both scientific and creative analyses on how such innovations can contribute to students' enthusiasm and understanding, while also improving overall educational outcomes.

Key words: education system, stories, research, teaching way with new technologies, practical methods.

When approaching language learning on an international scale, innovative technologies should not be limited to books and manuals but should focus on developing communication in groups. Additionally, lessons can be conducted through engaging games and other interactive methods to make learning easier and improve understanding. This approach not only revitalizes the learning process but also encourages the practical application of the language being learned.

The meaning, content, events, and characters in the short stories of American writer and journalist Jack London are aimed at increasing interest in life, and the sequence of events inspires all book lovers to take action. His stories, translated into Uzbek, such as “Love of Life”, “The Law of Life” and “Son of the Wolf”, encompass the struggles of survival amidst the challenges of ordinary life. If we look at the characters and processes in “Love of Life”, Bill’s companion throughout the story clung to hope, unwilling to face the harsh reality. The goal of achieving his dream until the very last moment of his life kept him going, while hunger, fear, and various illusions overwhelmed him. As we look at the animals the man encountered in the story, the moment he overcame the bear, his fear turned into a fight for survival, and in the process of killing the wolf, he demonstrated immense patience. Technology and ideas played their part under small circumstances, such as using the four cardinal directions to reach the sea and repeatedly counting the 67 matches every day, illustrating a scientific approach combined with patience.

Jack London’s short story “The Rebellion” reveals the hardships faced by a single mother and her son within the political landscape of the 19th century, uncovering the suffering of an entire people. London illustrates how people, by working continuously, become mere parts of a mechanism. The factory demands only speed and precision, and the monotony of the work dulls the boy’s mind, showing how it eventually stifles his ability to think critically. This highlights that in language learning and teaching, it's not just action or repetition that matters, but the conscious absorption of knowledge through free thinking and reflection. The boy introduces himself as 14 years old, but he had been working in the factory since the age of seven. The story shows how his body and mind have stopped functioning beyond mere physical labor, and he no longer feels what happiness is. This connection between past and future in the boy’s story reflects London’s portrayal of the relentless cycle of life. Despite working hard and producing efficiently like a machine, the boy's family struggles financially as prices continue to rise.

Eventually, after years of work, he realizes that relentless effort alone is not the solution to the problem. In today’s context, the story advocates for having personal opinions, taking pleasure in the tasks performed, and approaching things with creativity in language learning, encouraging self-worth and thoughtful reflection.

Another notable story by Jack London is “Son of the Wolf”, which centers on the life and beliefs of an American citizen named Mackenzie, who has deep knowledge of the Native American language and culture. The story emphasizes the idea that before changing the worldview of others, a person must first change themselves. Throughout the narrative, Mackenzie is portrayed as a restless, determined, and diplomatic figure, reciting poems, delivering speeches, and attempting to unite the primitive tribe. This reflects the importance of leadership and group work in language learning. Mackenzie falls in love with Zarinka, the daughter of the tribal chief Tiling-Tinnex, and devises plans to establish relations with the people while studying their way of life. In this story, Jack London focuses on dispelling misconceptions and highlighting the importance of understanding other cultures. Ultimately, the narrative reaches its conclusion, with Mackenzie successfully influencing the worldview of the Native Americans. In the same way, using innovative technologies in learning should involve personal ideas, creativity, and the social application of language. After all, technology is created by people, not the other way around.

In today's world, modern technologies are creating vast opportunities for students and increasing their interest in language learning. One of the reasons for this shift is that, in the past, students mainly worked with pre-prepared textbooks. However, now teachers are guiding students, teaching them how to manage their learning process, and giving them the opportunity to study independently. During lessons, the active engagement of both the teacher and the student—through independent thinking, collaboration on individual and group projects, and applying knowledge both practically and theoretically—helps cultivate highly skilled professionals. Students must focus on absorbing innovative technological learning programs consciously, rather than mechanically.

Here are some ways in which innovative technologies can be utilized and for what purposes:

1. Purposeful use of educational programs by teachers and students: This involves staying up-to-date with the latest information and actively applying knowledge through multimedia programs in practical situations.
2. Collaborative work with peers in groups: This encourages students to think freely and express collective creativity and initiative.
3. Effective management of the teaching system through didactic methods by teachers: This aims to improve the educational process, enhance professional skills, and provide practical guidance to foster individual interest in each learner.

In conclusion, positive use of innovative technologies based on the student's character and interests, along with the implementation of systematic programs and a balanced approach to group and individual learning, can serve as the key to enhancing the effectiveness of education between teachers and students. In higher education, a research-driven and creative approach to language learning is essential for developing the necessary knowledge and skills. Enriching vocabulary, generating new ideas through modern methods, and fostering qualities such as patience and perseverance, as seen in Jack London's "Love of Life", developing fluent speech and reflection like in "Son of the Wolf", and adopting a conscious, thoughtful approach as in "The Rebellion" act as bridges toward mastering language.

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