
THE INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON MODERN ENGLISH

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Abstract. *In today's world, social media plays a significant role in our lives. Not a single day goes by without spending at least a few moments in front of a smartphone or computer screen. There are countless social networking platforms that we can no longer imagine our lives without. Almost every person has access to the Internet and owns accounts on various social media platforms. The rapid development of web technologies is changing the way people communicate. Instant messaging has replaced long emails, and voice messages are gradually replacing traditional phone calls. The Internet has expanded the boundaries of human communication, making the transfer of information faster and more accessible than ever before. A social network is an online platform, a website, or a technology that allows users to share personal information, find others, communicate, and establish new social connections or maintain existing ones. Social networks have also become a space for sharing various kinds of information between users.*

Keywords. *Social media, modern communication, internet technology, online platforms, instant messaging, voice messages, social networks, information exchange, digital interaction, online communities, virtual communication, connectivity, pandemic impact*

Аннотация. *В современном мире социальные сети играют значительную роль в нашей жизни. Ни один день не проходит без того, чтобы мы не провели хотя бы несколько минут перед экраном смартфона или компьютера. Существует бесчисленное количество социальных сетей, без которых мы уже не можем представить свою жизнь. Почти каждый человек имеет доступ к интернету и зарегистрирован в различных социальных сетях. Быстрое развитие веб-технологий меняет способы общения между людьми. Мгновенные сообщения заменили длинные электронные письма, а голосовые сообщения постепенно вытесняют традиционные телефонные звонки. Интернет расширил границы человеческой коммуникации,*

сделав передачу информации быстрее и доступнее, чем когда-либо прежде. Социальная сеть — это онлайн-платформа, сайт или технология, которая позволяет пользователям делиться личной информацией, находить других людей, общаться, устанавливать новые социальные связи или поддерживать уже существующие. Социальные сети также стали пространством для обмена различными видами информации между пользователями.

Ключевые слова. Социальные сети, современная коммуникация, интернет-технологии, онлайн-платформы, мгновенные сообщения, голосовые сообщения, обмен информацией, цифровое взаимодействие, виртуальное общение, онлайн-сообщества, связь, влияние пандемии.

Annotatsiya. Bugungi kunda ijtimoiy tarmoqlar inson hayotida muhim o‘rin tutadi. Har kuni insonlar smartfon yoki kompyuter ekraniga kamida bir necha daqiqa vaqt ajratadi. Ijtimoiy tarmoqlarsiz hayotni tasavvur qilish qiyin. Internet va tez rivojlanayotgan veb-texnologiyalar odamlar o‘rtasidagi muloqotni o‘zgartirib, axborot almashinuvini tezlashtirdi va uni yanada qulay qildi. Ijtimoiy tarmoqlar foydalanuvchilarga shaxsiy ma’lumotlarni baham ko‘rish, boshqalarni topish, muloqot qilish va yangi ijtimoiy aloqalarni o‘rnatish imkonini beradi. Shu bilan birga, ular axborot almashish uchun keng maydon yaratadi.

Kalit so‘zlar. Ijtimoiy tarmoqlar, zamonaviy muloqot, internet texnologiyalari, onlayn platformalar, tezkor xabarlar, ovozli xabarlar, axborot almashinuvi, raqamli muloqot, virtual aloqa, onlayn hamjamiyatlar, bog‘lanish, pandemiyaning ta’siri.

Introduction

Nowadays, society actively uses social media for information exchange, communication, work, and study. The use of various social networks has become an integral part of the daily lives of millions of people. The Internet provides the opportunity to communicate "here and now." This method of interaction became especially relevant this year when the world faced an unexpected challenge — the pandemic — and all work, study, shopping, and entertainment shifted to the online space.

Distance learning allowed social networks to be seriously considered not only as entertainment platforms for communication, music, or movies but also as educational platforms that helped maintain continuous interaction between teachers and students online. The main activity on the Internet is communication between people, reading information, and transferring data from one person to another. In social networks, communication happens through language; therefore, it can be said that learning a foreign language with the

help of web technologies allows better development of the learner's communicative competence.

Language is a living system that is constantly changing. "The development of language, continuous and spontaneous, uncontrollable and unpredictable, mysterious and uneven, constantly changes the distribution of semiotic connections in the language. New functional relations are superimposed on the old ones, coexist with them, or gradually replace them." At this stage of human life, the main factor that changes language is the Internet and communication on social media.

Since the active use of social media began, many new words have entered our active vocabulary: hashtag, account, to google, ban, content, click, and many others. When it comes to foreign languages, some words have even changed their meanings. For example, "friended" and "friend" traditionally mean "friendship" or "to be friends," but in the context of social media, they have taken on a new meaning — to add someone to your "Friends" list on social networks. If you "friended" someone, it does not necessarily mean a real social connection. The verb "to like" in a standard dictionary means "to find something pleasing," but on the internet, "Like" has come to indicate a person's level of popularity. Emoticons and abbreviations such as LOL (laugh out loud), OMG (oh my God), and TTYL (talk to you later) have also started to play a significant role.

Since language is constantly changing, the relevance of using social media for learning foreign languages has sharply increased. Modern language can be heard on TV, radio, seen in newspapers and magazines, but most importantly — on the internet. For teenagers, it matters a lot what language their favorite blogger uses, what phrases their favorite characters in a series or movie say, rather than what is found in a textbook. The textbook is the main basis for language learning at school, but sometimes it is not enough. Therefore, we can turn to various social networks.

Social networks such as Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, VK, and Google offer a large amount of authentic texts for language learning. These social networks do not contain artificially created dialogues intended for teaching; instead, they feature current language from which learners can take relevant words and phrases. For example, the Instagram account of the German newspaper Der Spiegel posts journalistic texts written in modern literary German, which can be used in lessons for discussion or for studying language constructions used by the authors. YouTube hosts many bloggers who cover various topics in foreign languages. For any topic from a textbook, you can find a video where a young blogger from the country of the target language discusses it in current language.

Using such social networks helps students develop not only communicative competence but also cultural knowledge and fosters a love for the language. The use of social networks

makes language learning more interesting and visually answers students' common question: "Why do we even need to learn your language?"

Besides finding authentic materials with current language on social networks, the internet allows us to teach languages online. Many teachers actively use internet resources, and there are many special platforms where children can learn foreign languages. However, if we look at which internet platforms children use most in real life, we see their activity is primarily on popular social networks like Instagram, VK, Twitter, YouTube, and others. These platforms can be adapted for educational purposes.

Various social networks provide many opportunities for online foreign language learning, quick feedback from teachers, and performing communicative exercises. For example, VKontakte allows creating group chats that can include many people, such as a foreign language study group. These chats have a very useful feature called "voice message." A student can not only send a written text to the teacher but also record and send spoken messages. They can produce monologues, and voice messages can also be used to conduct debates between students.

Regarding this platform, it also offers the possibility to write articles on specific topics where teachers can post assignments and cover grammatical topics. Moving on to another social network — Instagram. Teachers can post pictures that students must describe in the comments. On Twitter, online debates can be held on any topic. All this happens in real time, allowing students to practice their language skills while using their favorite social networks.

Internet platforms are the fastest way for feedback between teachers and students. During distance learning, social networks allow conducting lessons online even without video calls. A student writes a message, and the teacher replies quickly. Using voice messages and various videos, followed by teacher-assigned tasks, is very effective in this scenario. For example, a teacher can share a YouTube video link and assign a related task using Google Forms.

The Opportunities of the Internet in Learning English

Nowadays, everyone understands that the Internet possesses enormous informational capabilities and equally impressive services. Undoubtedly, it is necessary to utilize modern e-learning opportunities when teaching and improving English. There are many educational websites on the Internet where you can attend lectures and lessons; communicate online with language teachers and native speakers; participate in group discussions; use dictionaries and grammar resources; assess your knowledge level through various language tests; watch videos; access many electronic publications in English; read comments after

articles; expand and enrich your vocabulary; access up-to-date information that is updated daily; and save both time and money.

With the development of the Internet, opportunities for learning English have significantly increased. Since English is widely spoken in many parts of the world, the Internet space is filled with information in English and also serves an educational role. The Internet is considered a technological breakthrough of recent decades that has had a strong influence on the development of educational technologies. Furthermore, the Internet hosts numerous recommendations and educational materials, and the technical capabilities of the World Wide Web provide the opportunity to conduct educational sessions directly online. Almost all methodological materials for learning English, online tests, and multimedia resources can be found on the Internet. All of this is widely used in English language learning.

The Internet allows learners to immediately practice their English knowledge online. Through the Internet, a person can communicate with residents of different countries and representatives of various ethnocultural communities, thereby not only improving their English skills but also enhancing their ability to understand English speech from people of different backgrounds. Because communication happens live online, there is no need to simulate situations or role plays; it is authentic interaction. Many English teachers recommend using the Internet to practice speech etiquette formulas, as live communication helps assimilate etiquette faster since you are immersed in a real language environment.

We can use the Internet: For independent information search while working on lesson topics; For self-study; For independent preparation for tests.

Moreover, during extracurricular time, students can work independently on improving their foreign language skills. There are many different courses available online for various categories of learners, intended for self-education or guided study with a teacher.

Participation in chats with teenagers from different countries is an additional, very interesting and useful opportunity for real speech practice and making new contacts. This type of language learning is still insufficiently researched, but it is only a matter of time. Discussions and conversations involve not only the exchange of information on certain topics but also an introduction to elements of other cultures.

The Internet is a universal means for searching information and transmitting knowledge. Its undeniable advantage is that it is an inexhaustible source of information on any topic.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Internet has revolutionized the way we learn and practice English. It offers an immense variety of resources and interactive platforms that make language learning more accessible, engaging, and effective. From authentic materials and real-time

communication with native speakers to online courses and social networks, the digital space provides countless opportunities to enhance vocabulary, grammar, listening, and speaking skills. Especially in the context of global challenges like the pandemic, the Internet has become an indispensable tool for distance learning, enabling continuous education regardless of physical barriers. Moreover, social media and online communities foster not only language development but also cultural exchange, helping learners to immerse themselves in real-life language use and diverse cultural contexts. As language is dynamic and constantly evolving, integrating modern technologies and Internet resources into English learning is essential for developing communicative competence and motivation.

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