

ҚАЗАҚСТАН РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫ БІЛІМ ЖӘНЕ ҒЫЛЫМ МИНИСТРЛІГІ

Л.Н. ГУМИЛЕВ АТЫНДАҒЫ ЕУРАЗИЯ ҰЛТТЫҚ УНИВЕРСИТЕТІ  
ХАЛЫҚАРАЛЫҚ ҚАТЫНАСТАР ФАКУЛЬТЕТІ

ШЕТ ТІЛІ КАФЕДРАСЫ

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Жинақта білім беру ісінің өзекті мәселелері, осы заманғы озық технологияларды меңгеру мен оны оқыту ісінде қолданудың тиімді әдістері, кредиттік оқыту жүйесінің теориясы мен әдістемелік негіздері, педагогикалық қызметтің теориясы мен практикасы, халықаралық білім беру технологияларын тиімді пайдаланудың әдіс-тәсілдері кең көлемде қамтылған.

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## **METHODS WITH PODCASTS IN TEACHING ENGLISH TO IMPROVE STUDENTS' SPEAKING SKILLS**

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### **Introduction**

Every day we get a plenty of different information and rapidly technologization of modern society lead to developing new electronic informational and communication technologies which use together or sometimes instead of traditional tools to keep and send information. For the last some years it's incredibly seeing increase of modern resource – podcasting in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Constantly evolving technologies never stop though people are not becoming less busy as more and more we get a lot of new information every day which is difficult to keep track of. Most of the time people waste their time on the road going somewhere in cars or public transport not knowing how to manage this time properly. Taking into consideration these factors and we aren't always in calm and peaceful place, reading books can't be suitable acting due to it requires strong concentration. Listening to radio and music doesn't have informative and educational benefits. Even though podcasts appeared several years ago, over the last two years, podcasts have become very popular among young people and adults. Nowadays the Internet and Wi-Fi accessible everywhere, you can download and upload relevant and needed podcasts in any language, listen to in any time and place, know something new and learning.

### **The Podcast**

The use of information and communication technologies has become a big step towards the development and improvement of the level of teaching foreign languages. The main goal in teaching a foreign language, indicated in educational standards is the formation of a foreign language communicative competence of students. Today we have row of tools that help create an atmosphere of immersion in an authentic language environment, which is so necessary in learning a foreign language.[1]

In the modern methodological literature, some theoretical and practical aspects of using a podcast in the educational process in a foreign language have already been considered. The study of this area was carried out by P.V. Sysoev, A.G. Solomatina, as well as some foreign researchers Alm, A, Beheler, A. F., Robin H. Ka etc.

A podcast is an audio / a video recording, an audio or a video blog in the form of episodes. One or three podcasters participate in podcasts, where they discuss various topics: modern problems of humanity, medicine, technology, education, politics, Stand-up etc. Today, podcasts are available on many Internet platforms and apps such as Spotify, iTunes, BBC, wbur, TED Radio Hour, YouTube, National Public Radio etc., which are easy to download to your smartphone and listen to at a convenient time for the user and in most cases for free. [2]

Podcasts as an innovative technology in teaching foreign languages have some advantages and disadvantages:

#### Advantages

Authentic. Most podcasts are created by native speakers, which gives us an idea of the socio-cultural reality of the target language, contains information related to the professional activities of future specialists, and shows the functioning of the language in a natural environment. [5]

Multifunctionality. Podcasts are multifunctional, as they help develop all four types of language activities when teaching a foreign language: reading, speaking, writing and listening. In addition, podcasts help build sociocultural competence. Knowledge of a foreign language, culture, traditions, customs, the country of the target language, definitely, gives great advantages to the future specialist: it is easier to get a job, more chances to integrate into society and to understand world problems deeper.

Relevance. Podcasts' platforms allow you to subscribe and receive new podcasts constantly. Thus, every day we can download new audio and video files with information about current events in various realms of life, which can be used in English classes.

#### Disadvantages

Using new podcasts teachers have to create exercises on their own that takes a lot of their time.

It is not enough to listen to podcasts, you need to apply the knowledge gained in practice.

Some podcasts' apps/platforms demand monthly or yearly payment.

Assimilation of information. Information is received via visual and auditory canals. Due to listening to modern authentic podcasts of various genres on any topic of students' interest in a variety of performances (accent, rhythm, fluency of the speaker), students are able to develop their level of sounding of the language close to natural.

Interactivity. Using a smartphone or laptop, the user can independently choose an appropriate podcast and control the speed of play.

Podcast is a powerful motivational tool that has the strongest emotional impact on learners. The interaction of cognitive and emotional functions arouses an increased interest in learning a foreign language, has a positive effect on memorizing educational material, compensates for the lack of attention and increases the educational aspect of learning.

Availability. Using tablets, computers, MP3 players etc., allows you to access podcasts at any time even offline in case you saved some. Access to such a learning tool as a podcast has capacity to learn a foreign language in your leisure time, while you are on the bus, taxi or even cooking.

Need enough much time to get used to different accents and be always focused on speakers during a long time.

It takes much time to find an appropriate podcast to your level, especially for low levels.

Students with low English level tougher keeping motivation to listen to podcasts. They must make more efforts at the beginning.

Listening to a podcast and doing something at that moment applies high consecration.

### **How to choose an appropriate podcast:**

- Podcasts can be any length about 1-2 hours though an average time is 20 minutes. Here a teacher must take into account students' level and listening skills due to it can affect the understanding and a lesson. If students have elementary or pre-intermediate level it's better to give 6 minutes for the first time, for intermediate level suitable to use 7-10 minutes. The longer the podcast, the higher the level of listening skill should be.[3]
- The content of the podcast must correspond the student's level of language skills.
- Chosen podcast must be authentic and modern.

- Podcast content should correspond to the interests of students.
- Sound quality must be higher and clear in the lessons.

### **Tips working with podcasts**

1. Lots of student have anxiety with listening foreign audios/podcasts and don't get information. That fear in their heads is blocking perceiving of information. Beforehand explain students that listening can be tough for the first time, it is okay and that problem can be solved. It is very important to reward students for the information they hear and write down.
2. Shorter is better. For beginners, use a maximum of 3-5 minutes.
3. Analyze the episode's structure. Is there a use of music or clear passages to mark transitions? The more structured the episode is, the easier it will be to segment for use in class.
4. Always have a purpose. Each time students listen they must know what they are listening for.
5. Filter. Before class, carefully choose the segment you'll present and decide how you will pre-teach any material likely to inhibit meaning.[4]

### **Conclusion**

To sum up the main information about podcasts, it could be said that podcast is an excellent tool for ensuring a quality learning process. It enhances students' motivation and sense of purpose, which contributes to the improvement of the educational process. Students not only improve their language level using a modern platform, but also receive up-to-date information about a foreign world outside their country. Podcasts expands the boundaries of the learning environment as a student can learn both in class and outside of it. The use of podcasting technology opens up more opportunities for learners related to overcome the language barrier through involvement in an authentic language environment.

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