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THE NEED FOR EFFECTIVE TEACHING STRATEGIES IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING

Annotation: This article examines a variety of innovative teaching strategies and how they can be used to engage and educate young learners. The purpose of this article is to discuss the importance and benefits of using these tools when learning a foreign language.

Keywords: effective strategies, unique learning needs, task-based language teaching, creativity, learning environment, flexible teaching methods.

Teaching strategies are methods that teachers use to help students learn and reach their goals. These techniques can be modified to meet each student's unique needs and learning preferences. They enhance the effectiveness and engagement of learning, averting boredom and promoting student success. There are many different strategies, such as lectures, which involve the teacher providing information to students. Traditional teaching strategies have been used for a long time and usually involve the teacher giving a lecture while students listen and take notes.

The field of education is in constant flux, with educators continually seeking fresh and imaginative methods to captivate and instruct their young charges. Innovative teaching strategies not only infuse learning with enjoyment but also cultivate a lifelong passion for knowledge among young students. Education stands as a vital part of any society, wielding significant influence in shaping the future of our young learners. Nevertheless, conventional teaching approaches may not always succeed in captivating and motivating students, particularly in a world that is rapidly embracing digital technologies and a fast-paced lifestyle. Effective teaching strategies involve understanding the subject matter and the student's needs, abilities, and learning styles. Teachers should be creative in choosing strategies that engage their students and create an inclusive learning environment. Inclusive classrooms require teachers to implement various teaching strategies, such as active learning, peer tutoring, cooperative learning, and direct instruction. Teachers must continuously develop their skills and knowledge to implement these strategies well. Innovative teaching strategies are essential in teaching English as a foreign language, and their implementation is crucial for student success. Innovative approaches are described in a brief below :

Total Physical Response (TPR): This method uses physical movement to teach language. It's highly effective with young learners as it connects language learning with actions, making it more memorable.

Storytelling and Drama: Using stories, role-plays, and drama activities helps children learn language in context. In addition, students can act out scenarios, use dialogue, and engage creatively with the language they are learning.

Technology Integration: Utilizing educational apps, interactive websites, or even virtual reality can make learning languages more engaging and interactive for young learners.

Multisensory Activities: Incorporating activities that stimulate different senses (like touch, sight, and hearing) can enhance learning. For example, using flashcards with pictures, songs, or tactile materials.

Games and Puzzles: Educational games, puzzles, and quizzes can be adapted to teach vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation playfully. Incorporating games and activities into language lessons can make learning more engaging and fun for young learners. For example, playing language learning games like "Simon Says" or "I Spy" can help children practice vocabulary and sentence structure.

Project-Based Learning: Assigning projects where students create something (like a poster, a storybook, or a video) using the language encourages meaningful language use and creativity.

Cultural Immersion: Exposing young learners to the culture associated with the language through food, celebrations, music, and traditions can make learning more meaningful and holistic.

Peer Teaching and Collaboration: Allowing students to work together, teach each other, or engage in collaborative tasks promotes language use and builds confidence.

Personalized Learning: Tailoring activities and materials to students' interests, abilities, and learning styles can increase motivation and engagement.

Storytelling: Using storytelling as a teaching tool can help young learners develop their listening and comprehension skills. Teachers can read stories in the target language or have students create their own stories to practice speaking and writing.

Technology: Utilizing technology such as language learning apps, interactive whiteboards, and online resources can make language learning more interactive and engaging for young learners.

Gamification is one such innovative teaching strategy that has gained popularity in recent years. It involves using game design elements in non-game contexts, such as education, to engage learners and promote learning. It is a powerful tool that can be used to make learning more fun and engaging for young learners.

These methods are effective in language learning classrooms but which to use depends on your learners' personal needs and preferences, language level and ability to learn it. Teachers can easily examine which goes best for their class and which is not. Sometimes teachers can be creative and change the method or mix two of them to get better outcomes of their lessons.

Experiential learning typically involves learning through direct experience and reflection. It is a hands-on approach to learning that emphasizes the importance of real-world experience in the learning process. This approach can be used to teach a variety of subjects, from science and math to art and music. Experiential learning can take many forms, such as field trips, simulations, and experiments.

Focus on academic language, literacy and vocabulary. Reading, writing and vocabulary exercises are essential building blocks for developing language fluency, but it is only part of what is needed. Students who appear fully fluent in English may nonetheless struggle to express themselves effectively in academic settings, as they lack the words and phrases needed to connect their ideas and discuss them with others. These are just a few examples of innovative teaching strategies that can be used to teach foreign languages to young learners. It's important to keep in mind that every child learns differently, so it's important to be flexible and adapt teaching methods to meet the needs of individual students.

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