THE ROLE OF PROJECT WORK IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING

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Annotation: In recent years, the methods of teaching have been changed. One of the most effective way to deliver the information to the students is giving project works for them. Especially, when teaching the foreign languages, it might help a lot. In this way they would fell the experience. In this article I am going to discuss different ways of preparing project work and illustrate in what way project woks help students to be experienced enough in their spheres.

Key words: project work, foreign languages, collaboration of students, modern technologies, creating power point document, group work, individual work, boring lessons.

Introduction

Every foreign language has its own ups and downs for the learners. For instance, while learning English the learners who are from Asian countries struggle with the pronunciation. The main reason is that in the Turkish language family words are pronounced in a Turkish way. Besides, European language family completely differs from it. So here the main responsibility is for the teacher. Teacher must use an appropriate method for students who are learning foreign language. Project works are the best option when teaching the language. In every level there are various kind of project works. Every student has a tendency to learn something new and of course it works with foreign languages too. The only thing they need is to take enough information and to do as much practice as possible.

The project work reflects a planned and definitely formulated piece of study involving a task or problem taken up by the learner, either individually or in a group, to supplement and apply classroom and laboratory transactions. It follows the approach of learning by doing and learning by living. By using this method while teaching foreign languages teacher helps students learning better communication skills. Students need to find a lot of information about the topic and they should talk with many people. It definitely boosts the communication skills automatically. In addition to this, students would be pleasant by working on interesting project while learning new language. For example, when someone wants to learn Korean, he or she might learn the language easily by learning and finding all new words from one song. It helps both for their listening skills and lexical resources.

For the teachers there also have great benefits. One of them is that by giving a project work for students, teacher might learn new words and new structures. In addition, teacher could have an opportunity to know students better, about their personality, about their comprehension of the foreign language.

Now we will cover some details about PBL in foreign languages. According to the book called "Teaching methods of special subjects" by J.SH.Djumabaeva "There are generally considered to be four elements which are common to all project-based activities/classes/courses:

1.   A central topic from which all the activities derive and which drives the project towards a final objective.

2.   Access to means of investigation (the Internet has made this part of project work much easier) to collect, analyze and use information.

3.   Plenty of opportunities for sharing ideas, collaborating and communicating. Interaction with other learners is fundamental to PBL.

4.   A final product (often produced using new technologies available to us) in the form of posters, presentations, reports, videos, webpages, blogs and so on".

If the teacher put an award to the finishing of the project. It increases the motivation of the students. Also, students think that their hard work always pays off. Learners of the PBL method given freedom to go about solving problems or sharing information in the way they see fit. The teacher`s role is monitor and facilitator, setting up frameworks for communication, providing access to information and helping with language where necessary, and giving students opportunities to produce a final product or presentation. Moreover, the important thing is to use what works best for teachers and the learners.

There is nothing like a group project to get students talking.

They work well as long as:

• The topic is centered on the learners` interests

• There is not any real need for extensive or time-consuming research

• Students can present their work orally to the rest of the class

• One particularly successful is based on our love of lists. Students in small groups work towards compiling a top five.

And also, there could be small presentations which might presented while the lesson. A short project can be presented in one lesson, prepared and researched and completed in the next lesson.

If it comes to using technologies while preparing project work, it is the easiest way to create project work so far. Because, students who have computer literacy find it easy rather than making it by hand on the poster paper. Here I want to give some tips for preparing power point document which teachers could use while giving project works for their students:

•Create presentations from scratch or a template.

•Add text, images, art, and videos

•Select a professional design with PowerPoint Designer

•Add transitions, animations, and motion

•Save to OneDrive, to get to your presentations from your computer, tablet, or phone

•Share and work with others, wherever they are

Add slide

1.   In the thumbnails on the left pane, select the slide you want your new slide to follow.

2.   In the Home tab, in the Slides section, select new Slide.

3.   In the Slides section, select Layout, and then select the layout you want from the menu.

Add and format text

1.   Place the cursor inside a text box, and then type something

2.   Select the text, and then select one or more options from the Font section of the Home tab, such as Front, Increase Font Size, Decrease Font Size, Bold, Italic and Underline.

3.   To create bulleted or numbered lists, select the text, and then select Bullets or Numbering.

Add a picture, shape, and more

1.   Go to the Insert tab.

2.   To add a picture:

•In the Images section, select pictures

•In the Insert Picture From menu, select the source you want.

•Browse for the picture you want, select it and then select Insert.

To add illustrations:

•In the illustrations section, select Shapes, Icons, 3D Models, SmartArt, or Chart

•In the dialog box that opens when you click one of the illustration types, select the item you want and follow the prompts to insert it.

These steps are taken from official internet site and if you follow the steps correctly, you could create the power point document in an easy way. You might share these tips with your students, or if you are student you find it handy.

Next question is that which is better: doing project work with group of students or individually? Firs of all there are some positive sides of working in a group. For example, there are some students who are painfully shy and they do not want to work by themselves. There should be someone who could help them while doing important

project works. Especially, when learning foreign languages, most students struggle with speaking out loud or communicating with teacher. At such times, working in a group could help them. The reason is that they might collaborate with their teenagers, they might exchange ideas. Besides, if the ideas are more and different then the teacher also finds it interesting. As this way the flow of the lesson will be understandable and provocative for everyone.

On the other hand, even group working creates more collaboration, there are some drawbacks of it. For instance, as the ideas are different, students have trouble in finding the best one. Everyone might prove their own ideas. Moreover, the group working may cause laziness, when the group members tend to rely on one who is more responsible than others. When learning foreign language, everything depends on you and the same here in doing project work. You should acquire the new information about the language when preparing the project work. The main aim of given project work is also this.

As we could see, the project work somewhat related to own and creative ideas. While finding data about a particular topic, the student faces many new words and phrases that might help him later in the learning process. There are some advantages and disadvantages of working individually. At first, when student work on his own he might search much information which is handy for his later learning process. Plus, when working individually you have an opportunity to create your own project work, it might be necessary for your portfolio later in life. On top of this, without any help from your colleges, you could create something new. This process not only makes students learning the language easier, but also it might help them to be independent and not relying on others` thoughts. However, it also depends on the character of the student. So, it is advised to observe the personality of students first. Then the teacher has an opportunity to give right task for them. There are some students who are super lazy and if you give a task them, with high probability, they miss the project work. Only thing is making them join their group and contribute to do something on the project work. Here the role of the teacher is very vital that he or she should know and decide which one suits their students.

Conclusion

To conclude, I would like to mention that, when learning and teaching the foreign language project works plays an important role, because if you are learning something you definitely need practice and practical work. With the help of practical works, the process of comprehending the foreign language is easier for students. Besides, in one lesson the teacher could not give the information fully, so while doing practical works you may find every data about the topic.

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