

# ONLINE FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING IN THE UNIVERSITY

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**Abstract.** A digital era we live in demands the implementation of the language tools that can both fasten the process of study and make it effective and motivated. We consider online learning to be a forward-looking strategy in FLL (foreign language learning). The present study aims to determine the basic strategies for online FLL, to identify the rules for FLL lesson planning. We learnt the experience of successful online teachers and came to the conclusion that there are several platforms to make online teaching easy. Such digital tools as Props, Total Physical Response, Google calendar and Evernote can sufficiently improve your online teaching. Careful planning with a focus on the aims of studying, student's weak points, and speaking will assist FLL.

**Keywords:** FLL; online teaching; digital tools; planning; platform

**INTRODUCTION.** The world becomes increasingly globalized and bilingualism is now perhaps the most useful real-world skill. In 2017 Ukraine became a member of the EU and the issue of foreign language fluency for Ukrainian people is crucial nowadays. That is why all levels of education are being transformed now beginning from primary school and culminating in High School. As far as Ukrainian University is concerned, one of the main documents that determines the foreign language policy is a concept of second language learning. According to this document, all university students will have to master a foreign language at the B1 level. We agree that foreign language fluency is very important for economics and society of our country. However, technical Universities can't compete with the humanitarian High Schools both according to the number of hours and foreign language fluency of first-year students.

To make teaching the foreign language both effective and motivating EFL teachers to practice up-to-date techniques and methods, implement new strategies in the language classroom.

All modern social culture is becoming digital. Today it is not enough to read and to listen. Images rather than text are becoming promising elements of the

modern system of education, especially in terms of integration and globalization. That is why one of the popular techniques to master English is using comics strips in the classroom (Chaikovska, 2018). Ukrainian academics also work at the incorporation of the educational potential of social media platforms and podcasts. Pedagogical experiments carried out in the previous studies make it possible to confirm that "such characteristics of podcasts as authenticity, multi-functionality, ability to motivate, flexibility and quick-absorbing of information make it a very perspective teaching strategy" (Chaikovska, 2018: 145). Besides, using podcasts in professional EFL learning helps to improve listening comprehension and speaking performance (Chaikovska, Zbaravska & Bilyk, 2019: 1919]

Distance learning is also paid close attention to. If we calculate some study hours for in-class and out-of-class learning hours, their number is almost equal (80 to 70). Teaching English online is becoming more popular all over the world, giving learners and teachers flexibility in where and how they develop English language skills. Teaching EFL online corresponds to the tendency of the digital era we live in. Besides, the tendency to smart working is welcomed in Great Britain, Germany, France and Scandinavian countries. The ability to work in non-standard conditions seems to enhance and motivate people.

So, the study aims to give you some practical strategies for developing a good rapport with learners and helping to motivate them throughout online lessons, because these things can be more difficult online than they are face-to-face. The study will give brief characteristics for online platforms necessary for online teaching.

**METHODOLOGY RESEARCH.** The analysis of educational, scientific and methodical literature and study on research issues were applied in a research paper.

**RESULTS.** Recently distance learning has become very popular with the students of Ukrainian universities. Now the principles of teaching and learning remain the same across all contexts. To make online language learning easy a teacher may use Zoom, Skype or join the learning management system (LMSs).

During our experiment, we dealt with Whereby and Wiziq. Com. Platforms. Whereby is an excellent tool for collaboration and allows the users to carry out meetings with high-quality video and audio, which is an important aspect for communicative processes. Wiziq. Com. is like an up-to-date teaching laboratory and makes learning portable and accessible 24/7 on personal handheld devices. During our online classes, we use the following tools: Total Physical Response (TRP) (hand gestures and actions that make a word or sentence more understandable to a student); Google calendar helps to keep the lessons organized (a teacher can add spreadsheets to record what you have done with the students); Evernote is very convenient to save the lesson plans; Props are encouraged to enhance the lesson and student's knowledge are encouraged to enhance the lesson and student's knowledge (many students are visual learners and Props help to clarify a word).

**CONCLUSION.** To sum up, teaching online can be beneficial for university teachers and students. A lot of good online platforms are at the disposal of the modern teacher. Zoom, Skype are platforms for beginners, Whereby and Wiziq. Com. are for experienced online teachers. Such tools as Props, Total Physical Response, Google calendar, Evernote can help to make your online FLL timesaving and efficient.

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