

IMPROVING ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING IN TECHNICAL SCHOOLS (TECHNIKUMS): A PROFESSIONAL-ORIENTED APPROACH

Samatov F

Abdukodirov Sh

Teachers of Yangikurgan District Technical School No. 2

Abstract: *The development of modern industry and technology requires graduates of technical schools (technikums) to possess practical English communication skills. This article discusses effective methods of teaching English in technical schools with a focus on professional orientation, competency-based learning, and digital technologies.*

Keywords: *technical school, technikum, vocational education, ESP, professional English, communicative competence.*

INTRODUCTION

English plays an important role in technical and vocational education. Graduates of technical schools work in fields such as automotive service, information technology, construction, and electrical engineering. In these areas, English is needed to understand technical documentation, equipment manuals, and international professional information.

The Importance of English in Technical Schools

In vocational education, English supports professional development. Students need to:

- understand technical terminology;
- read instructions and manuals;
- communicate in workplace situations;
- write short reports and messages;
- follow safety guidelines.

Competency-Based Approach

A competency-based approach focuses on practical skills. The main competencies include:

- reading professional texts;
- speaking in job-related situations;
- using professional vocabulary;
- working with English-language digital resources.

English for Specific Purposes (ESP)

ESP helps students learn language related to their specialty. Activities may include:

- learning field-specific terminology;
- reading simplified technical texts;
- watching professional videos;
- role-playing workplace communication;
- writing short technical instructions.

Use of Digital Technologies

Digital tools make learning more interactive and effective. Useful tools include:

- online dictionaries and translation apps;
- educational platforms;
- video lessons and demonstrations;
- interactive quizzes and mobile learning applications.

Interactive Methods

Student-centered methods improve learning outcomes:

- pair and group work;
- project-based learning;
- role plays and simulations;
- presentations on technical topics.

Challenges

Teachers may face:

- low initial English level of students;
- limited class hours;
- lack of ESP materials;
- low motivation.

Solutions include developing specialized materials and integrating English with vocational subjects.

Conclusion

Profession-oriented English teaching improves students' motivation, practical skills, and employment opportunities. The use of ESP, digital technologies, and interactive methods increases the effectiveness of English teaching in technical schools.

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