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BOOSTING COMMUNICATION SKILLS IN STUDENTS

Abstract

The article focuses on training students' speaking skills thus helping them integrate academically and socially. In the current information and social context, speaking competence and confidence are crucial for professional success, which makes the task of leading students to successful communication especially relevant. Various formats and strategies described in the article have proved to be effective through years of foreign language teaching. Extensive experience gives us enough grounds to argue that combining theory (e. g. Grice's maxims) and practice (helping students structure their speeches, taking part in Public speaking forums, revealing anchoring techniques) results in enhanced communication skills. As these teaching strategies appear to be only rudimentary in the Russian educational landscape, looking into their potential might be really instrumental. The development of the following skills can be seen as particularly beneficial: (i) neurolinguistic programming for capturing and keeping listeners' attention, decoding neurolinguistic mechanisms of other language speakers (including manipulation techniques), (ii) structuring speech in accordance with the international standards, (iii) building a discussion around a current event that has received massive coverage in the media.

Keywords: verbal communication, speaking skills, strategy, neurolinguistic programming, Grice's maxims

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