

THE ROLE OF COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE IN THE LANGUAGE LEARNING SPHERE

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Abstract: *The role of communicative competence in the language learning sphere is paramount to the development of effective language skills. Communicative competence refers to the ability to communicate effectively in a given language, taking into account not just grammar and vocabulary, but also cultural context, social norms, and pragmatic use of language. This article explores how communicative competence plays a crucial role in language acquisition, as learners must be able to comprehend and produce language in real-life situations.*

Keywords: *Communicative competence, language learning, interaction, cultural awareness, linguistic accuracy, pragmatic competence, language proficiency.*

Communicative competence plays a crucial role in the language learning process as it refers to the ability to effectively communicate and interact with others in the target language. This goes beyond just grammar and vocabulary knowledge and involves understanding cultural norms, appropriateness in different contexts, and the ability to express oneself clearly and accurately.

In the language learning sphere, communicative competence is important for students to be able to engage in conversations, express their thoughts and opinions, and understand and respond to others. It helps students become more confident and proficient in using the language in real-life situations, both orally and in writing.

Developing communicative competence also helps students build strong relationships and connections with native speakers and fellow learners, as they are better able to express themselves and understand others effectively. This can lead to better collaboration, cultural exchange, and overall language proficiency.

Teachers play a vital role in fostering communicative competence in their students by creating opportunities for communication, providing feedback, and encouraging practice in various contexts. By integrating communicative activities, such as role-plays, group discussions, and language games, teachers

can help students develop their communication skills and become more proficient in the target language.

Communicative competence is indeed crucial for language learners as it allows them to not only understand and produce language accurately, but also to use it appropriately in different social contexts. This includes being able to engage in conversations, express ideas clearly, interpret nonverbal cues, and adapt language use based on the situation and audience. Developing communicative competence helps students become more confident and effective communicators, ultimately leading to better outcomes in their personal, academic, and professional lives.

There are different types of communicative competence that contribute to effective communication in language learning. Some of the key types include:

□ Linguistic competence: This refers to the knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation that allows a person to form grammatically correct sentences and understand the meaning of words and phrases.

□ Sociolinguistic competence: This involves understanding the social norms, rules, and conventions of language use in different contexts and situations. It includes knowing how to adjust language depending on the relationship between speakers, formality levels, and cultural expectations.

□ Discourse competence: This refers to the ability to organize ideas coherently, structure conversations or written texts effectively, and use appropriate discourse markers to maintain clarity and coherence.

□ Strategic competence: This involves knowing how to compensate for communication breakdowns or limitations by using strategies such as paraphrasing, asking for clarification, or using non-verbal cues to convey meaning.

□ Interactional competence: This relates to the ability to engage in meaningful interactions with others through effective listening skills, turn-taking behavior, feedback provision, and showing empathy or understanding towards others' perspectives.

Developing these different types of communicative competence can greatly enhance students' ability to communicate effectively in a foreign language and navigate various communication situations with confidence. The formation of students' competencies depends on their activity, when the "activity" of the teacher turns into the activity of the students. The competence-based approach enhances the practical orientation of education, emphasizes the need to gain experience in activities, the ability to put knowledge into practice. Thus, the competence-based approach includes a set of principles for determining the goals of education, expressed in self-determination, self-actualization and

development of the individuality of students. No less important is the issue of choosing the forms and methods of teaching students. Education in competence-oriented education acquires an activity character, i.e. the formation of knowledge and skills is carried out in the practical activities of students, their joint activities are organized in groups; active forms and methods of teaching, innovative technologies of a productive nature are used; an individual educational trajectory is built; in the learning process, interdisciplinary connections are actively implemented; the most important qualities develop: independence, creativity, initiative and responsibility.

Thus, the competence-based approach in teaching a foreign language is developing as an alternative to traditional learning, in the process of which knowledge, skills and abilities are acquired, limiting their practical application in the future professional activities of students and insufficiently taking into account the essence of the competence of a modern person in a free market competition.

Overall, communicative competence is a key aspect of language learning that enhances students' ability to effectively communicate, interact, and succeed in real-life settings. It is essential for building strong language skills and ensuring meaningful communication in a diverse and globalized world.

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