PREPARING MEDICAL STUDENTS FOR REAL-LIFE SOCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

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Current conditions for foreign language acquisition in medical universities

Listening and speaking skills in real-life communication

Humanitarian educational environment

Teaching approaches

Methods and form of work

Teaching resources

Experimental teaching and its results
CURRENT CONDITIONS FOR FOREIGN LANGUAGE ACQUISITION IN MEDICAL UNIVERSITIES

- Language is studied during one academic year.
- The accent is put on teaching professional vocabulary.
- Speaking is mostly taught in the form of monologue or beforehand prepared dialogue.
- Students’ initial level of language acquisition is considerably lower than the level of material used on the lessons.
- As a result students are able to read and translate professionally oriented texts, but they are not able to communicate efficiently in a foreign language.

Results of the survey (250 students)

- Listening skills difficulties: 68% students
- Speaking skills difficulties: 51% students
- Writing skills difficulties: 37% students
- Reading skills difficulties: 9% students
- Readiness for real-life communication: 35% students
LISTENING IN REAL-LIFE COMMUNICATION

- one-time opportunity to listen the speech;
- no chance to stop the speech and translate unknown words;
- accent and personal vocal differences of the speaker;
  - usage of nonverbal means of communication;
- social and cultural contest of the communication;
  - special background information;
- fear not to understand the speaker.

Motivational and emotional aspect
- intention to understand;
- right emotional state

Language competence
- grammar
- vocabulary
- phonetics

Different types of listening
- L. for gist
- L. for details
- critical L.
- empathetic L. etc.

Psychophysical mechanisms
- speech hearing
- memory
- attention
- comprehension
- inner articulation

Listening strategies
- anticipation
- linguistic guess
- focus on the key ideas
- notes taking

Social and cultural skills and knowledge
- Social rules of communication
- nonverbal communication
- cultural concepts
- Spontaneity of the speech (can’t be prepared beforehand);
- Impossibility to know all the words and grammar rules that the speaker might need during the talk;
- Influence of the speaker’s pronunciation on understanding and attitude of the listener;
- Necessity to make speech logical and structural;
- Usage of nonverbal means of communication;
- Social and cultural context of the communication;
- Fear to make mistakes.
FORMATION OF THE **HUMANITARIAN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT**

WHERE MEDICAL STUDENTS CAN DEVELOP NECESSARY SKILLS AND PERSONAL TRAITS FOR REAL-LIFE COMMUNICATION IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE
TEACHING APPROACHES

1. Competence-based approach
2. Communicative approach
3. Person-oriented approach
4. Action-oriented approach
5. Cultural approach
6. Synergetic approach
TEACHING METHODS

- Communicative method
- Project method
- Game method
COMMUNICATIVE METHOD

- Creating situations of communication close to real-life
  - Creating emotionally favorable environment
  - Using friendly style of error corrections
- Discussing topics exciting / important for students
- Building trusting relationship in the classroom

Example:
Play the role of the most unforgettable patient.
Think:
- how the patient would behave?
- what emotions would he / she express?
- what nonverbal means of communication would he use?
- What questions would the patient ask?
- etc.

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<tr>
<th>Name: Vincent</th>
<th>Surname: Van Gogh</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOB: 05.12.1940</td>
<td>Hospital No: 785461</td>
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<td>Occupation: artist</td>
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<td>C/o: reddish-brown rash, hacking cough, red eyes, white spots in the mouth, light sensitivity, fever</td>
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<tr>
<th>Name: Sydney</th>
<th>Surname: Carter</th>
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<tr>
<td>DOB: 14.06.1974</td>
<td>Hospital No: 975132</td>
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<td>Occupation: lawyer</td>
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<td>C/o: stuffy and runny nose, sneezing, slight fever (37.9°C), sore throat, headache</td>
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PROJECT METHODS

- Encouraging students’ communication through project development and presentation
- Developing students’ creativity
- Creating emotionally favorable environment
- Building trusting relationship in the classroom

- creating posters
- creating videos
- creating games
- writing poems, songs and stories
GAME METHOD

- Encouraging students’ communication through games
- Developing students’ critical thinking
- Creating emotionally favorable environment
- Building trusting relationship in the classroom

Role playing games
Board games
Cards games
Online games
TEACHING MATERIALS

- Materials that can be used as demonstration of real-life communication
- Materials that raise vivid interest of students thanks to its contest and form
- Materials that encourage students' discussion
- Materials that provide background information necessary for successful communication

authentic texts
TED talks
medical series
medical songs
EXPERIMENTAL TEACHING

- 2018-2020
- Izhevsk State Medical Academy
- 250 students

learning activities + extracurricular activities + research activities
EXPERIMENTAL TEACHING RESULTS

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<th>listening</th>
<th>speaking</th>
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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