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Internet resources in learning English for specific purposes

 Usage of technical means for training has occupied the common part in the
structure of educational process in modern higher education. Currently, introduction
of innovative teaching methods, digital technologies, application of Internet resources
in learning and teaching foreign language in the universities, including the
postgraduate stage, is becoming relevant [1, 2. 4-7].

Education now involves digital media, perfectly reflecting large volume of new
information, telecommunication technologies, media technologies, etc. [1, 5-7].
Modern Internet technologies offer wide opportunities both for teachers and for those
who are studying. Using video in the classroom and video as a task is a possibility for
the learners to access the lesson content extending the program time. Such creative
tasks free more classroom time for practising and acquiring cognitive skills.
 The authors emphasize that virtual environment, and electronic
communication, as well as, has become “a certain thing in daily life, its relation to
foreign language learning being natural and facilitative” [7]. At the third level of
education, the students have to solve the demanding tasks of reading enormous
quantity of professional materials in English. “Writing various assignments is another
challenging part of higher education” [6]. Therefore it proves some online activities
to become the priority in university level of learning English for specific purposes
(ESP).
 The university uses such forms of environment activities as sharing blogs,
websites, social media, etc. Specificity of the object of study – foreign language for
specific purposes – plays a certain decisive role in the choice of means, forms and
methods of teaching, especially for preparation the development material [8].
In the field of non-language higher education, while the foreign language is not
a specialty, but one of the program disciplines, the purpose of studying this foreign
language is the development of linguistic, communicative and socio-cultural
competence [3], which allows the learners to use various methods of obtaining
professional information from the foreign sources in professional activities, including
those from the Internet resources, to participate in English medium professional
communication [2, 4-7].

It should be noted that the Internet is most appropriate to be used on the
stage of improving linguistic skills [6]. Such kind of learners as postgraduates,
working on their Philosophy Doctor (PhD) scientific degree, support the importance
of writing and reading skills for their ESP course tasks. Those resources are the most
helpful for them: world library databases, scholar articles, reference materials, or
multimedia resources, etc.

It should be considered, that the ESP students are adult, motivated learners,
mastering English for the purposes of their professional activity. They are completely
agree to express certain independence in looking for reading professional materials,
which should be useful namely for them and their research work. Improving reading
and writing skills with implemented extensive reading is used mostly in the English
for specific purposes program [4; 250].

Reading and writing are interrelated skills in ESP approach and they should be
exercised together. Information and communication technologies are applied in
ongoing online reading of the professional materials at postgraduates’ own pace and
during their convenient time. They practice active target search really topical and
relevant in their situation.

It is emphasized that informational content of Internet sources is one of their
most valuable features and stimulates motivation to study. Creating the conditions in
which students use educational materials, find tasks, perform them, generally
improves the success in foreign language acquiring.
Fundamental role of information and rapid development of information
technologies explains the need for creation of special information culture both of the
learner and the teacher [7].

At present, the amount of knowledge accumulated by the
humanity is growing at an incomparably fast pace with other historical periods, and
this requires new approaches to organization of the learning process.
Within this approach, the process of information link to education implies, in
particular, the development of a special thinking either of teachers or listeners [2].
 Therefore it is important to improve the program and methodological support of educational process. It is important to develop methods for applying technical and
didactic capabilities of information technology aiming at increase creativity,
formation of creative strategies in the search of educational and professional tasks.
In view of this, teachers must be able to select and apply technologies that fully
correspond to the content and purpose of the course of ESP particular field (medicine,
mathematics, technology, aviation, agriculture, etc.), in particular with the aid of the
Internet resources, and thus contribute to the achievement of the postgraduates’
learning objectives, taking into account their individual characteristics.

Internet has significant effects on communicating, teaching and learning. Thus,
both teachers and learners should have an access to the Internet, become experts with
its functioning and facilities for education. Taking into account the psychological and
perception abilities of the students, it is an important precondition for successful
foreign language course [1]. The proper use of new technologies allows a more
systematic, integrated language, content and culture approach, enhances more
autonomous learning. E-communication helps teachers and learners to exceed
barriers, to build bridges between native and foreign language programs [7] and
realities, especially in their professional area.

In order to achieve successful language training, teachers must review their
thinking and language classes planning in order to incorporate the new capabilities
available daily on the virtual environment. Students, on the other hand, also need to
develop skills required for adequate functioning within a society mainly driven by
electronic communication [7].

Foreign language for specific purposes represents a tool which allows
professionals to function in the society and to communicate with colleagues
throughout the world, making available the means to connect with the achievements
of the other cultures. In the increasingly global environment, the need to know global
language is vital in order to function effectively. Such communication will build
“virtual space”, which is being designed through the use of various ways of relevant
access to information.

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