ENGLISH FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES:VALUE IN THE HIGHER MEDICAL EDUCATIONPetrova O.B., Candidate of Philological Sciences (Kharkiv)
English language training is classified into the types according to various factors
and peculiarities, either of age of the trainees, duration of the course, the aims of
studies, etc.
Medical university applies English as a foreign language training in different
courses for specific purposes. The syllabi of the courses depend on the specific aims
which are set, and are designed according to the ‘needs’, ‘lacks’ and ‘wants’ of the
students [1], in the framework of the conventional idea of English for specific purposes
(ESP) as a special course which “is based on designing courses to meet learners’ needs”
[1, p. 3]. The authors say about the ESP focus on professional communication skills as
the key factor in the attaining special knowledge.
We teach foreign language to the future medical professionals in different
medical fields: therapy, pediatrics, dentistry, preventive medicine, physiotherapy,
laboratory diagnosis, etc. All these areas are connected with diverse professional
responsibilities which suggest different volume, contents and forms of communication,
realized with the aid of the foreign language.
The groups of trainees involve the following levels of education: training for the
128
Bachelor degree, Master degree, Philosophy Doctor degree. Specific for the PhD
course, in particular, is the objective to complete a PhD research on a subject in a field
of medicine. It supposes acquirement of research, practical and other foreign language
professional competencies, to be able to complete the tasks of their professional
activity.
The training materials are based on the results of the carried preparatory work on
creating focused activities which provide the trainees with skills that are adequate and
really useful for their future practice.
Thus, PhD postgraduates are involved in completion of useful tasks relating to the
scientific literature review during their elaboration of the research subject, working with
international databases, etc. English as a foreign language is necessary for them for
writing abstracts, articles, compiling conference reports, preparing manuscripts for
publications, etc.
References
1. Hutchinson T., Waters A. English for Specific Purposes: A learning-centered
approach. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1987. – 183 p.