

THE DEVELOPMENT OF VERBAL SPEECH SKILLS OF STUDENTS
IN MILITARY ACADEMIC LYCEUMS IN TEACHING A FOREIGN
LANGUAGE (ON THE EXAMPLE OF ENGLISH)

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Annotation: *This article explores the development of verbal speech skills in students at military academic lyceums, focusing on English language teaching. Emphasizing practical methods and strategies, it analyzes the unique linguistic needs of military students and their academic environment. The study investigates approaches to enhance speaking skills and discusses the outcomes of experimental teaching methods. Conclusions suggest practical recommendations for integrating interactive and context-relevant activities into foreign language teaching in military settings.*

Keywords: *Verbal speech skills, English language teaching, military academic lyceums, foreign language methodology, interactive learning, communicative competence.*

In a globalized world, proficiency in English is critical for military personnel, enabling them to communicate effectively during international missions and collaboration. However, teaching English in military academic lyceums requires tailored methodologies that address the specific needs of students preparing for military careers. Verbal speech development is central to this objective, as oral communication is often the most immediate and practical mode of interaction in professional military contexts. This paper explores innovative strategies to enhance verbal speech skills among military lyceum students, identifying challenges and solutions tailored to their unique educational environment.

The development of verbal speech skills in students of military academic lyceums is crucial for their future roles, where communication skills can have a significant impact on both tactical and strategic levels. When teaching a foreign language like English in these specialized institutions, certain strategies can be implemented to foster verbal speech skills effectively:

Contextual Language Use

- **Military Terminology:** Integrating military-specific vocabulary into English lessons will help students acquire language skills relevant to their future careers. Lessons can include practical military dialogues, command structures, and scenarios where precise communication is essential.

- **Role-Playing Exercises:** Students can be given simulated situations, such as briefings, report deliveries, and tactical communication, where they practice speaking in English while maintaining military discipline and structure.

Focus on Practical Communication

- **Simulations and Drills:** Conducting language drills in military contexts, where students practice instructions, orders, and reports in English, can be highly effective. This includes practicing commands, responses, and giving briefings in English under time constraints.

- **Field Exercises:** Incorporating exercises that simulate real-world scenarios (e.g., mission planning, emergency procedures) encourages students to use English in realistic settings.

Building Listening and Speaking Competence

- **Interactive Lessons:** Incorporate activities where students listen to native English speakers (military videos, news reports, interviews) and then engage in discussions, summaries, or feedback in English.

- **Discussion Groups:** Encourage group discussions and debates on military-related topics, giving students the opportunity to express opinions, make arguments, and engage in dialogue in English.

Structured Feedback and Correction

- Error Correction: Since military communication often requires precision, immediate feedback on language errors (grammar, pronunciation, vocabulary) is essential. This feedback should be constructive and encourage improvement.

- Pronunciation Practice: Focus on correct pronunciation and intonation for clarity, especially for commands or technical language. Practice with phonetic drills can help.

Incorporating Technology

- Language Learning Apps: Use specialized language apps or platforms that help with language acquisition, which could also include military-themed content or simulations.

- Virtual Reality (VR): VR simulations could immerse students in environments where they practice speaking English in combat or operational scenarios.

Cultural Context and International Communication

- Exposure to International Military English: Teaching students the importance of using English as a lingua franca in international operations, peacekeeping missions, and military alliances can be beneficial.

- Cross-Cultural Communication: Understanding how different cultures communicate, especially in a military context, could be integrated into language lessons.

By focusing on these areas, students can improve their verbal communication skills in English, which is critical for effective participation in international military operations, leadership, and cross-border coordination.

The findings highlight the effectiveness of interactive, scenario-based methods in teaching English to military students. Military-specific scenarios such as role-plays in briefing and commanding contexts appeared to engage students more effectively than traditional methods. These results align with theories of situated learning, which argue that contextualized practice enhances skill acquisition.

However, implementing such methods requires teacher training and curriculum adjustments. The study also identified challenges, such as limited classroom resources and varying levels of English proficiency among students. These barriers underscore the need for adaptive strategies and resource allocation to support innovative teaching methods.

Conclusions.

- Interactive, scenario-based teaching methods significantly improve verbal speech skills among military lyceum students.
- Confidence and engagement are crucial factors in language learning success.
- Tailoring language instruction to military-specific contexts is essential for relevance and motivation.
- Teacher Training: Regular workshops for teachers on interactive and military-specific teaching methods.
- Curriculum Development: Incorporate speaking-focused activities and military scenarios into English language syllabi.
- Technology Integration: Use language-learning apps and virtual simulations to enhance interactive learning.
- Policy Support: Allocate resources and provide institutional support for implementing innovative teaching approaches.

This study underscores the transformative potential of context-driven, interactive methods in developing verbal speech skills for military students, paving the way for further research and practical application in similar educational contexts.

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