

ENHANCING CONTEXTUALIZED VOCABULARY INSTRUCTION:
METHODOLOGICAL STRATEGIES AND AN INTEGRATED INSTRUCTIONAL
MODEL FOR UZBEK EFL LEARNERS

Rashidova Muzaffara Joxonshoxovna

Student of Samarkand State Institute of Foreign Languages Faculty of English
Department of Foreign Language and Literature Group 2232 (Russian).

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Annotation. This article discusses ways to improve vocabulary teaching through context-based methods. It explains how students can better learn and remember new words when they are used in real situations, texts, and communication tasks. The study also suggests combining grammar and vocabulary and using digital tools in lessons. These approaches help learners become more active and confident in using English in real life.

Key words: contextual learning, vocabulary teaching, EFL students, digital tools, communicative approach.

Annotatsiya. Ushbu maqolada lug'atni kontekst asosida o'qitish orqali samaradorlikni oshirish yo'llari ko'rib chiqiladi. Unda so'zlarni matn va real vaziyatlarda o'rganish ularni yaxshiroq eslab qolishga yordam berishi tushuntiriladi. Shuningdek, grammatika va lug'atni birga o'qitish hamda raqamli vositalardan foydalanish tavsiya etiladi. Bu usullar talabalarning ingliz tilidan erkin foydalanishiga yordam beradi.

Kalit so'zlar: kontekst asosida o'qitish, lug'at o'rganish, EFL talabalari, raqamli texnologiyalar, kommunikativ yondashuv.

Аннотация. В данной статье рассматриваются способы повышения эффективности обучения лексике на основе контекста. Объясняется, что изучение слов через тексты и реальные ситуации помогает лучше их запоминать. Также предлагается интегрировать грамматику и лексику и использовать цифровые технологии на уроках. Эти подходы делают обучение более активным и помогают студентам уверенно использовать английский язык.

Ключевые слова: контекстное обучение, обучение лексике, студенты EFL, цифровые технологии, коммуникативный подход.

Introduction

In recent years, teaching vocabulary in English as a Foreign Language (EFL) classrooms has become more focused on meaningful use rather than simple memorization. Traditional methods, where students only learn word lists and translations, are no longer considered effective enough. Many learners may remember words for a short time, but they often struggle to use them in real communication.

This shows that vocabulary knowledge is not only about knowing the meaning of a word, but also understanding how and when to use it. One of the most important approaches in modern language teaching is contextualized vocabulary instruction. This approach helps students learn new words through context, such as texts, dialogues, and real-life situations.

When learners see how words function in sentences, they are more likely to understand their meaning deeply and remember them longer. In addition, this method supports the development of speaking, reading, and writing skills at the same time.

Another important aspect is the integration of grammar and vocabulary. Instead of teaching them separately, combining these elements allows students to use language more naturally.

Moreover, the use of digital technologies has created new opportunities for vocabulary learning. Interactive tools, online platforms, and multimedia resources can make lessons more engaging and effective.

Therefore, this chapter aims to explore practical strategies for improving contextualized vocabulary instruction. It focuses on integrating digital technologies, combining grammar and vocabulary teaching, and providing methodological recommendations. The chapter also presents an instructional model that can be applied in EFL classrooms, especially in the Uzbek educational context.

Integrating digital technologies into vocabulary teaching

The use of digital technologies in language teaching has increased significantly in recent years. In vocabulary instruction, digital tools provide new ways to present, practice, and review words. For example, teachers can use multimedia materials such as videos, images, and interactive exercises to introduce new vocabulary. This makes the learning process more interesting and helps students understand meanings more clearly. One of the key advantages of digital tools is that they support different learning styles. Some students learn better through visual materials, while others prefer listening or practicing actively. Digital platforms combine all these elements, which makes them suitable for a wide range of learners. In addition, students can learn at their own pace, which is especially useful in mixed-level classrooms.

Another benefit is the opportunity for repeated exposure. Vocabulary learning requires constant practice, and digital applications make it easier to review words regularly. For instance, spaced repetition systems help students remember words over a longer period. Online quizzes and games also make revision more enjoyable and less stressful. Moreover, digital tools encourage student engagement. Many learners feel more motivated when they use technology, as it is part of their everyday life. Teachers can create interactive tasks, such as online discussions, vocabulary challenges, or collaborative projects. These activities not only improve vocabulary knowledge but also develop communication skills. However, it is important to use technology wisely. Digital tools should support learning objectives, not replace them. Teachers need to select appropriate resources and guide students in using them effectively. When used properly, digital technologies can significantly improve vocabulary learning outcomes.

Integrative methodology: combining grammar and vocabulary

In traditional language teaching, grammar and vocabulary are often taught separately.

However, this approach does not always help students use language effectively. Learners may know grammar rules but struggle to express their ideas due to limited vocabulary. On the other hand, knowing many words without understanding grammar can also lead to incorrect usage.

An integrative methodology solves this problem by teaching grammar and vocabulary together. This approach allows students to see how words function within grammatical structures.

For example, when teaching a new tense, teachers can introduce vocabulary related to daily activities or specific topics.

This helps students practice both grammar and vocabulary at the same time. Context plays an important role in this method. Instead of isolated sentences, students work with meaningful texts or situations. For instance, reading a short story or participating in a role-play activity allows learners to observe how grammar and vocabulary interact. This leads to a deeper understanding of language.

Another advantage of this approach is that it promotes active learning. Students are not just memorizing rules; they are using language to communicate. Activities such as group discussions, problem-solving tasks, and presentations encourage learners to apply their knowledge in practice.

This improves both accuracy and fluency. Furthermore, integrating grammar and vocabulary helps reduce cognitive overload. When students learn language in a connected way, it becomes easier to process and remember information. Teachers can design lessons where each component supports the other, creating a more coherent learning experience. Overall, the integrative methodology is more effective than teaching grammar and vocabulary separately. It reflects how language is used in real life and prepares students for actual communication.

Methodological Recommendations and Instructional Model

Based on the analysis of modern teaching approaches, several methodological recommendations can be suggested for improving contextualized vocabulary instruction.

First, teachers should always present new vocabulary in context. This can be done through reading passages, dialogues, or real-life scenarios. Context helps students understand not only the meaning of words but also their usage. It also makes learning more meaningful and less mechanical.

Second, it is important to create a supportive learning environment. Students should feel comfortable using new words without fear of making mistakes. Teachers can encourage participation through pair work, group activities, and interactive tasks. This increases student confidence and motivation.

Third, regular practice and revision are essential. Vocabulary cannot be learned in one lesson; it requires continuous exposure. Teachers should include review activities in each lesson, such as games, quizzes, or short discussions. This helps reinforce learning and prevent forgetting.

Fourth, the use of digital tools should be integrated into lessons. As mentioned earlier, technology can enhance vocabulary learning if used correctly. Teachers can combine traditional methods with digital resources to create a balanced approach.

In addition to these recommendations, an effective instructional model can be developed.

This model typically includes several stages. The first stage is the warm-up, where students are introduced to the topic through simple questions or activities. The second stage is presentation, where new vocabulary is explained in context. The third stage is practice, where students complete guided exercises. The final stage is production, where learners use new words independently in speaking or writing tasks.

This model ensures that students move from understanding to active use of vocabulary. It also provides a clear structure for teachers, making lessons more organized and effective. When applied consistently, this approach can significantly improve students' vocabulary skills.

Conclusion

In conclusion, improving vocabulary instruction in EFL classrooms requires a shift from traditional memorization techniques to more meaningful and interactive approaches.

Contextualized vocabulary teaching allows students to understand and use words more effectively, as it connects language learning with real-life situations. This approach not only improves vocabulary retention but also supports the development of overall language skills. The integration of digital technologies plays an important role in modern education. When used appropriately, digital tools can make vocabulary learning more engaging, flexible, and effective.

They provide opportunities for repeated practice, personalized learning, and increased student motivation. At the same time, combining grammar and vocabulary through an integrative methodology helps students use language more naturally. Instead of learning separate elements, learners develop a more complete understanding of how language works. This leads to better communication skills and greater confidence.

The methodological recommendations and instructional model presented in this chapter offer practical guidance for teachers. By using context, encouraging interaction, providing regular practice, and integrating technology, teachers can create a more effective learning environment.

Overall, the success of vocabulary teaching depends on how well these strategies are implemented in the classroom. When applied consistently, they can significantly improve students' ability to learn and use English. This is especially important in the Uzbek educational context, where there is a growing need for effective and modern language teaching methods.

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