

CASE STUDY METHOD IN TEACHING ENGLISH

Learning English as a second language is very important in modern life. Hence, teachers of foreign languages are constantly looking for some new means of optimizing the monologic skills of students, which contributes to communicative activities of the individual. And the case study method is an increasingly popular form of teaching, which requires participation and involvement from the students at the lesson, playing a great role in developing skills and abilities of students.

The case study method is a teaching approach that uses decision-forcing cases to put students in the role of people who were faced with difficult decisions at some point in the past. It requires that a teacher refrains from providing his/her own opinion about the decisions in question. Moreover, students are asked to express their ideas and defend their solutions to the problems themselves.

The use of case study method in the process of learning foreign languages has the following advantages:

- development of problem solving skills;
- development and raising critical thinking;
- forcing students into real-life situations training their managerial communication skills;
- encouragement for collaborative learning and team-working skills;
- development of presentation skills;
- making students be active, not passive, providing all the learners to try a variety of roles;
- teaching students that there may not be one “right” answer.

The usage of case study method at the lesson needs preparation of some aspects, they are the following:

- students must be prepared to discuss the case, they will understand the

case better, if they are given careful introductory directions;

- cases need to be complete enough so that the problem can be defined;
- the size of the group is rather important, large groups exclude many members from participating;
- role-playing involves students into problem solving from the perspectives of different key players.

Below there are some examples of case study tasks:

1. Alexis Gourrier has decided he needs to find a job that he can do at the same time as he studies at college. Work in groups of two or three, read the notes he has made and discuss which job you think would suit Alexis the best and why.

2. Read the job advertisement and discuss the kind of people and age groups that would be most appropriate for this kind of job. Discuss which applicants for this job you would call for an interview.

3. Work in groups of three or four. Read about the three trading problems below and the possible ways of dealing with them. Discuss how you would react in each case, if you were your country's Minister for Trade and Industry.

Being a complex and effective teaching method, the case study method is universal and applies particularly well with other methods of teaching foreign languages. If this method is applied repeatedly, students develop stable skills to solve practical problems. In the process of case study students gradually master the ability of becoming proficient in foreign language statements independently, without auxiliary speech and visual means. They are motivated to discuss the topic using different models of work, developing their speaking, reading and writing skills. Thus, the case study method is rapidly gaining popularity providing a wide choice of modern case studies for monologic speech of students.

Список використаної літератури:

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