

TEACHING VOCABULARY IN DIFFERENT CONTEXTS

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Annotation: *This article investigates the effectiveness of several vocabulary teaching strategies in diverse circumstances on language acquisition is examined. It highlights that rather than depending only on memory, successful vocabulary instruction incorporates teaching terms in context, which enhances comprehension and retention. Contextualized learning improves the useful use of vocabulary by emphasizing word meanings, collocations, and connotations. According to the article, the most effective method of vocabulary learning is to experience terms in real-world contexts. Learners are exposed to language in meaningful ways through strategies including interactive exercises, real-world materials, and collocation practice, which foster greater retention and comprehension. These techniques guarantee that vocabulary acquisition is applied rather than merely theoretical, thereby preparing students for communication in everyday situations.*

Key words: *vocabulary acquisition, contextualized learning, collocation practice, vocabulary retention, Real-life contexts.*

Аннотация: *Эта статья исследует эффективность различных методов обучения лексике в различных условиях для приобретения языка. Подчеркивается, что успешное обучение лексике включает в себя обучение словам в контексте, что улучшает понимание и запоминание, а не полагается исключительно на запоминание. Контекстуализированное обучение улучшает практическое использование лексики, акцентируя внимание на значении слов, коллокациях и коннотациях. В статье утверждается, что наиболее эффективный метод изучения лексики — это использование слов в реальных контекстах. Студенты подвергаются воздействию языка через такие стратегии, как интерактивные упражнения, материалы из реальной жизни и практика коллокаций, что способствует лучшему запоминанию и пониманию. Эти методы гарантируют, что усвоение лексики является прикладным, а не только теоретическим, тем самым подготавливая студентов к общению в повседневных ситуациях.*

Ключевые слова: *приобретение словарного запаса, обучение в контексте, практика коллокаций, удержание словарного запаса, реальные жизненные контексты.*

INTRODUCTION

One of the most important aspects of learning a language is expanding one's vocabulary, which is the foundation for clear communication. However, learners frequently lack the practical language skills necessary for real-life interactions when they only memorize words and their meanings. Learners need to be exposed to vocabulary in a range of situations that reflect real-world communication in order to fully comprehend and utilize a language. This approach helps students use their vocabulary in relevant, real-world contexts while also improving word memory.

The conventional method of rote memorization is not the only way to teach vocabulary in many circumstances. It entails incorporating a variety of instructional techniques that support students in using words in ways that mirror their natural usage in writing, speech, and other communication contexts. For example, learners can perceive terminology in context when actual materials like news stories, films, and conversations are incorporated. Additionally, interactive strategies like games, group projects, and collocation drills promote involvement and aid in students' better internalization of language. By emphasizing vocabulary learning in a variety of contexts and approaches, teachers can promote greater retention and better comprehension. In addition to making vocabulary acquisition more pleasurable, this method gives students the skills they need to use language correctly and confidently in a variety of contexts. In order to create well-rounded language skills that go beyond textbook knowledge and get students ready for real-life conversation, vocabulary instruction in a variety of settings is crucial. Belay Haileyes Asaminew's essay from 2022 (British Council) [1]states that teaching vocabulary is essential to the overall growth of students' language proficiency and that employing context-based training greatly improves retention and comprehension. The author highlights that vocabulary is significant units that need to be taught in real-world, varied settings rather than just a list of discrete words to be learned. This teaching strategy improves comprehension and communication skills by assisting students in making connections between new words and their everyday usage. Moreover, Belay emphasizes that in order for children to develop a deeper, more complex grasp of language, teachers must deliberately create classes that expose them to a variety of academic, social, and cultural settings. As students improve their ability to deduce meaning and use new terms on their own in suitable contexts, contextual vocabulary instruction not only promotes long-term retention but also learner autonomy and critical thinking. Contextual guessing.

Guessing in the context is a vocabulary learning technique in which students deduce the meaning of unfamiliar terms by examining the situational and linguistic environment in which they occur. This method helps pupils learn how to infer meaning from surrounding words, grammar, or the main idea rather than depending solely on using a dictionary. Renowned linguist Nation I.S.P. [2]emphasizes contextual guessing as a fundamental vocabulary-acquisition technique. He contends that if students have sufficient prior

knowledge and the context is helpful, they may correctly estimate the meaning of unknown words 80% of the time.

“One of the most crucial reading methods that students can employ is contextual guessing. It improves overall reading abilities as well as vocabulary knowledge”. Also Norbert Schmitt addresses the value of contextual

guessing as a vocabulary learning technique in *Vocabulary in Language Teaching*, particularly when paired with other approaches. „If reinforced through use, context offers a potent method for inferring meaning and promotes long-term acquisition”. Using authentic materials: Real-world texts, audio, or video resources that native speakers of the language would come across naturally are referred to as authentic materials. Newspapers, blogs, films, TV series, podcasts, ads, and even posts on social media are examples of this. In order to assist students learn vocabulary and phrases as they are used in regular communication, the goal is to expose them to language in its natural context. Richards highlights in his book *Curriculum Development in Language Teaching* [4] that the use of genuine materials increases learner motivation and makes it easier for students to comprehend and use language as it is naturally spoken or written. „Authentic resources connect classroom instruction with practical language application, providing learners with direct insight into the culture associated with the language”. Furthermore according to Michael Long's [5] language acquisition research, genuine materials help learners become more proficient communicators by exposing them to both formal and informal language used by native speakers. “Genuine texts facilitate effective communication and enhance abilities essential for thriving in the target language culture”. Besides Thomas and Roberts' [6] study looked at how real-world resources like news stories and podcasts improve vocabulary learning. They discovered that frequent exposure to real materials helped students retain more vocabulary and comprehend word meanings in context. “Frequent engagement with authentic sources enhances vocabulary retention and improves comprehension of word usage”.

Games and Interactive Activities:

Games and Interactive Activities are highly helpful in language learning, particularly for vocabulary acquisition. These activities include role-playing, word puzzles, quizzes, board games, and digital games, all of which stimulate engagement and active participation. By making language learning interesting and dynamic, games minimize anxiety, enhance intrinsic motivation, and allow learners to practice new vocabulary in real-world scenarios. Interactive assignments stimulate conversation, collaboration, and problem-solving, boosting learners' ability to retain and utilize terminology organically. Research has indicated that these strategies support long-term memory, as learners continually encounter words in relevant, contextual circumstances. This strategy produces a rich, immersive learning experience that increases vocabulary acquisition through engagement and practical use of language. In his book *The Study of Second Language Acquisition*, Rod Ellis [7] describes how games offer a relaxed setting that promotes language use in a relaxed, organic manner. He claims that by putting vocabulary into context, games aid with

vocabulary internalization. “Games offer a motivating setting that helps students internalize new vocabulary by encouraging them to utilize the target language organically and in context”. In addition Gee's research [8] on educational digital games examines how video games offer immersive, dynamic settings that let users pick up terminology in context. He highlights that by putting words in relevant, interesting contexts, video games, like other interactive activities, aid in vocabulary acquisition. “Games create a dynamic, interactive environment where learning becomes a part of the activity, not an external task”.

Collocation practices.

Collocations refer to words that are frequently used together in a language, forming natural-sounding combinations. For instance, in English, we commonly say “make a decision” or “take a shower” rather than “do a decision” or “make a shower”. Collocation practice involves teaching learners how to use words in their natural, common combinations, rather than just focusing on individual word meanings. Principal Advantages of Collocation Practice: Fluency improvement: Writing and speaking become more fluid and natural when one learns frequent word combinations. Improved comprehension: Learners may comprehend native speakers in a variety of circumstances by knowing how words usually mix. Vocabulary expansion: It aids students in learning not only words but also the patterns and structures that accompany them. Error reduction: When learners get accustomed to conventional word pairings, they are less likely to create sentences that seem strange. Schmitt's studies [9] have brought attention to how crucial collocation is to language learning. According to Schmitt's explanation in "Vocabulary in Language Teaching," mastering collocations helps students acquire vocabulary more quickly and employ it correctly in a variety of situations. “Because they greatly enhance communication fluency and naturalness, collocations are a crucial component of a learner's vocabulary”. According to Sinclair's corpus linguistics research[10], native speakers usually employ a limited amount of word combinations on a regular basis. He contends that teaching collocations can assist students in using words similarly to how native speakers do. “Collocations are essential to developing fluency since they are the fundamental units of natural language use”.

Conclusion. A key component of language learning is teaching vocabulary in a variety of contexts, which greatly improves students' capacity to use words efficiently and organically.

Teachers assist kids in developing vocabulary in a manner that reflects communication in the real world by emphasizing real-life scenarios and giving them a variety of authentic language experiences. Techniques like contextual guessing, games, interactive exercises,

collocation practice, and the use of real items provide a variety of interesting ways to support vocabulary learning. While games and interactive exercises create an enjoyable, captivating, and stress-free learning environment, authentic resources introduce students to language in its natural context. Another crucial strategy is collocation practice, which aids students in comprehending the organic word pairings that are necessary for fluency. By emphasizing these various strategies, students develop a deeper vocabulary grasp that

enhances their output and comprehension. By using these techniques in vocabulary instruction, students' motivation and confidence are increased in addition to their language proficiency. In the end, teaching vocabulary in a variety of settings guarantees that students can handle conversations in everyday situations with assurance, advancing their language learning and communication skills.

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