

USING EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLASSROOMS

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Abstract: This article explores the effectiveness of using everyday expressions in foreign language classrooms to improve students' communicative competence and practical language skills. The study emphasizes the importance of teaching commonly used expressions and phrases that frequently occur in real-life communication. Everyday expressions help learners develop fluency, listening comprehension, speaking confidence, and pragmatic awareness in foreign language interaction. The article also examines the role of communicative activities, authentic materials, and contextual learning in teaching everyday expressions effectively. In addition, the research discusses the challenges faced by learners in understanding and applying natural spoken language in classroom communication.

Keywords: *everyday expressions, communicative competence, phraseological units, pragmatic competence, authentic materials, speaking skills, communicative approach.*

Introduction: In modern foreign language education, the ability to communicate naturally and effectively in real-life situations has become one of the primary goals of language teaching. Globalization, international communication, and technological development have increased the importance of learning foreign languages, especially English, as a means of intercultural interaction. In this context, language teaching methodologies have shifted from traditional grammar-based instruction to communicative and learner-centered approaches that emphasize practical communication skills. One of the important aspects of communicative language teaching is the use of everyday expressions in classroom instruction.

Everyday expressions are commonly used phrases, idioms, greetings, responses, and conversational formulas that frequently occur in daily communication. These expressions help learners interact more naturally and fluently with native and non-native speakers of a foreign language. Unlike isolated vocabulary items or grammatical rules, everyday expressions provide learners with ready-made language patterns that can be applied directly in authentic communicative situations. Therefore, teaching such expressions plays a significant role in developing students' communicative and pragmatic competence.

Many language learners experience difficulties in understanding and producing natural spoken language despite having sufficient grammatical knowledge. This problem often occurs because traditional teaching methods focus mainly on grammar, translation, and memorization rather than practical communication. As a result, students may know vocabulary and grammatical structures but still struggle to participate in real-life conversations. In many cases, learners translate expressions directly from their native language, which can lead to unnatural or inappropriate communication. The integration of everyday expressions into classroom activities helps overcome these difficulties by exposing students to authentic and context-based language use.

Main Part: The use of everyday expressions in foreign language classrooms has become an essential component of communicative language teaching. Everyday expressions are natural phrases and conversational formulas frequently used in daily communication. These expressions help learners communicate fluently, understand spoken language more effectively, and participate confidently in real-life interactions. Unlike isolated vocabulary items, everyday expressions are usually learned and used as complete language units within specific contexts.

One of the major advantages of teaching everyday expressions is the development of students' speaking skills and communicative competence. Learners who know common conversational phrases can respond more naturally during communication. For example, instead of learning only single words such as *"thanks"* or *"sorry,"* students learn complete expressions like:

"Thank you very much."

"I really appreciate it."

"I'm sorry for being late."

"No problem."

"It's okay."

Such expressions allow learners to participate in authentic communication more confidently and appropriately.

Another important aspect of everyday expressions is their role in improving listening comprehension. Native speakers often use fixed conversational expressions in rapid speech, and learners who are unfamiliar with these phrases may face difficulties understanding spoken language. For example, expressions such as:

"How's it going?"

"What's up?"





"Take your time."

"I'm just kidding."

"Sounds good."

are very common in everyday English communication. Teaching these expressions through dialogues, videos, and listening activities helps students recognize and understand natural speech more easily.

Communicative classroom activities are particularly effective in teaching everyday expressions. Role plays and pair work create opportunities for students to practice language in realistic situations. For instance, teachers may organize role-play activities related to shopping, traveling, meeting new people, or ordering food in restaurants.

Example:

Situation: At a café

A: "Can I get a cup of coffee, please?"

B: "Sure. Anything else?"

A: "That's all, thank you."

B: "You're welcome."

Through such communicative tasks, students learn not only vocabulary but also appropriate conversational patterns and politeness strategies.

Group discussions also help learners practice expressions used in everyday interaction. During discussions, students use phrases for giving opinions, agreeing, disagreeing, or asking for clarification. Examples include:

"In my opinion..."

"I agree with you."

"I'm not sure about that."

"Could you explain it again?"

"That makes sense."

These expressions improve students' interactional skills and encourage active participation in classroom communication.

Another effective method for teaching everyday expressions is the use of authentic materials such as films, TV programs, podcasts, songs, and social media content. Authentic resources expose learners to real spoken language and natural communication styles. For example, students watching English-language films may encounter expressions like:

"Hang on a second."

"You've got to be kidding!"

"Let's catch up later."



"I'm on my way."

Teachers can ask students to identify these expressions, discuss their meanings, and practice using them in conversations. This approach increases learners' motivation and cultural awareness because many expressions are connected with social behavior and cultural norms.

Everyday expressions also contribute to the development of pragmatic competence. Learners need to understand not only the meaning of expressions but also when and how to use them appropriately. For example, formal expressions such as:

"Could you please help me?"

"I would appreciate your assistance."

are more suitable in academic or professional contexts, while informal expressions like:

"Can you help me out?"

"Give me a hand."

are commonly used among friends and peers. Understanding these differences helps students communicate appropriately in different social situations.

In the context of Uzbekistan, integrating everyday expressions into foreign language classrooms can significantly improve students' practical communication skills. Many learners in Uzbekistan possess grammatical knowledge but experience difficulties in spontaneous communication because they lack exposure to natural spoken language. Communicative activities and authentic materials help bridge this gap by providing opportunities for meaningful interaction and contextual language use.

However, several challenges remain in teaching everyday expressions effectively. Some expressions contain cultural references, idiomatic meanings, or informal language that may be difficult for learners to understand. In addition, traditional teaching methods that focus mainly on grammar exercises and translation often limit opportunities for communicative practice. Therefore, teachers should create interactive classroom environments where students can practice expressions repeatedly in meaningful contexts.

Overall, the use of everyday expressions in foreign language classrooms plays a vital role in developing communicative competence, pragmatic awareness, listening comprehension, and speaking fluency. Through communicative activities and authentic materials, learners become more confident and effective users of the foreign language in real-life communication.

The concept of communicative competence introduced by Dell Hymes emphasizes that successful communication requires not only grammatical knowledge but also the ability to use language appropriately according to social and cultural contexts. Everyday expressions are closely related to pragmatic competence because they reflect speech etiquette, politeness strategies, cultural norms, and conversational conventions. Learners who are familiar with common expressions become more confident and effective communicators in different social situations.

Communicative language teaching methods provide favorable conditions for teaching everyday expressions. Activities such as dialogues, role plays, pair work, group discussions, games, and authentic listening tasks allow students to practice natural communication and apply expressions in meaningful contexts. Authentic materials including films, videos, podcasts, and everyday conversations also help learners understand how expressions are used by native speakers in real interaction. Such exposure improves listening comprehension, speaking fluency, pronunciation, and intercultural awareness.

In Uzbekistan, the importance of communicative approaches in foreign language teaching has increased significantly due to educational reforms and the growing demand for specialists who can communicate effectively in international environments. Schools, colleges, and universities are introducing modern teaching methodologies aimed at improving students' speaking and communicative skills. However, many learners still experience difficulties in using natural spoken English because classroom instruction often remains focused on textbook exercises and theoretical grammar. Therefore, incorporating everyday expressions into foreign language classrooms can contribute to making language learning more practical, interactive, and communication-oriented.

Another important aspect of teaching everyday expressions is intercultural communication. Since language and culture are closely interconnected, many expressions contain cultural meanings and social values specific to a particular speech community. Understanding how and when to use certain expressions appropriately helps learners avoid misunderstandings and communicate more successfully with people from different cultural backgrounds. Thus, teaching everyday expressions also contributes to the development of intercultural competence and cultural awareness.

The present study aims to investigate the role of everyday expressions in foreign language classrooms and their impact on students' communicative competence. The research explores effective methods for teaching everyday



expressions, examines the benefits of communicative activities and authentic materials, and identifies challenges faced by students in learning natural spoken language.

The significance of this study lies in its contribution to improving communicative language teaching practices in Uzbekistan. The findings may help teachers, researchers, and curriculum developers integrate everyday expressions more effectively into foreign language instruction and create learning environments that prepare students for successful real-life communication. Ultimately, using everyday expressions in language classrooms can help learners become more fluent, confident, and culturally aware users of a foreign language.

In conclusion, the use of everyday expressions in foreign language classrooms plays a significant role in improving students' communicative competence and practical language skills. The study demonstrated that everyday expressions help learners communicate more naturally, fluently, and confidently in real-life situations. Unlike traditional vocabulary learning, teaching expressions in meaningful contexts allows students to understand how language is actually used in daily communication.

The research also showed that communicative activities such as role plays, dialogues, pair work, group discussions, and authentic listening tasks create effective opportunities for practicing everyday expressions. These activities help learners improve speaking fluency, listening comprehension, pragmatic competence, and intercultural awareness. Students who regularly practice conversational expressions become more capable of expressing opinions, responding appropriately, and maintaining interaction in different social contexts.

Furthermore, the study emphasized the importance of authentic materials in teaching natural spoken language. Films, videos, podcasts, songs, and everyday conversations expose learners to realistic communication patterns and help them understand the cultural and social meanings of expressions. Such exposure contributes to the development of both linguistic and intercultural competence.



In the context of Uzbekistan, integrating everyday expressions into foreign language teaching can significantly improve the quality of language education. Many students possess theoretical grammatical knowledge but face difficulties in spontaneous communication due to limited exposure to authentic spoken language. Communicative and learner-centered approaches can help overcome these problems by creating more interactive and practical classroom environments.

At the same time, the research identified several challenges related to teaching everyday expressions, including cultural differences, idiomatic meanings, limited classroom time, and the continued use of traditional grammar-focused teaching methods. These challenges indicate the need for teachers to apply more communicative strategies and incorporate authentic language materials into classroom instruction.

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