

FOSTERING COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE IN UPPER CLASSES: EMBRACING A LINGUO-CULTURAL APPROACH

Mukhlisa Kenjaeva

*Teacher of the English language theory and practice department,
Chirchik State Pedagogical University
E-mail : mukhlisa.kenjaeva96@gmail.com*

Abstract: *In today's interconnected world, effective communication skills are paramount. However, merely mastering grammar and vocabulary is insufficient; true proficiency demands an understanding of cultural nuances and context. This article explores the significance of developing communicative competence in upper classes through a linguo-cultural approach.*

Keywords: *communicative competence, linguo-cultural approach, cross-cultural comparisons, cultural norms.*

Communicative competence encompasses more than linguistic proficiency. It involves the ability to use language appropriately in various social contexts to achieve communicative goals. This includes understanding cultural norms, nonverbal cues, and adapting language use accordingly. [1] Language and culture are inseparable. To communicate effectively, students must not only grasp grammar rules but also appreciate the cultural contexts in which language operates. By integrating cultural elements into language learning, students gain a deeper understanding of the language and its speakers [2,147].

Authentic Materials: incorporate authentic texts, videos, and multimedia resources that reflect the cultural diversity of the target language. This exposes students to real-life language use and fosters cultural awareness.

Cultural Activities: engage students in cultural activities such as cooking traditional dishes, celebrating festivals, or exploring cultural artifacts. These experiences provide insight into cultural practices and enhance language learning.

Role-Playing and Simulations: Encourage role-playing scenarios that simulate real-life interactions, allowing students to practice language use in

context. This develops their communicative skills while promoting cultural sensitivity. [3]

Cross-Cultural Comparisons: Encourage comparisons between the students' own culture and the target culture. This promotes critical thinking and helps students recognize cultural similarities and differences.[4]**Effective Communication:** Students develop the skills to communicate effectively in diverse contexts, enhancing their ability to interact with speakers of the target language. **Cultural Awareness:** By exploring cultural aspects alongside language learning, students gain a deeper appreciation for cultural diversity and develop intercultural competence. **Motivation and Engagement:** Incorporating cultural elements into language lessons adds depth and relevance, making learning more engaging and motivating for students[5,15]. **Preparation for Global Citizenship:** In an increasingly globalized world, communicative competence coupled with cultural understanding prepares students to navigate intercultural interactions and become global citizens.

A linguo-cultural approach to language learning fosters communicative competence by integrating language skills with cultural understanding. By immersing students in authentic cultural experiences and providing opportunities for cross-cultural communication, educators empower them to communicate effectively and respectfully in diverse contexts. Embracing this approach equips students with the skills and mindset necessary to thrive in an interconnected world.

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