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## **ROLE OF INTERACTIVE TECHNIQUES IN ESL CLASSROOM**

Today one of the global challenges is bringing up a versatile, harmoniously developed personality that meets the demands of a present-day democratic society. World educational systems have been changed drastically so far. The achievement of the objectives is realized through the use of various teaching methods and techniques. They enhance personality's communicative, cognitive, creative, aesthetic potential as a dynamic dominant.

The paper aims at emphasizing the role of interactive techniques in ESL classroom.

Scientists say that the system of human relationships takes place through communication. The teacher organizes students' activities by means of communication that involves the constant activity of all the subjects who do not just perceive messages but react to them, strive to express their attitude to these messages. So, communication is perceived by students as the goal of their activities. For the teacher, as this communication is educational, this process is planned, organized for the purpose of students' skills formation and development of all types of speech activity. A modern teacher should successfully combine elements of innovative, interactive technologies with traditional forms and methods to organize the educational process in a creative and a critical way.

The analysis of current research papers in the area of ESL methodology highlights, that interactive teaching best helps students get maximum involvement in the training process. The student is an active recipient of knowledge and gets maximum knowledge. Recent studies show that interactive learning helps the learner memorize new material for a longer period of time.

An interactive approach involves interaction in a dialogue mode (“inter” – reciprocally, “act” – do, perform). In other words, an interactive teaching method is a form of learning and communicative activity in which students are involved in the learning process and reflect on what they know and what they are thinking. Unlike a traditional teaching method oriented on the teacher whose main function is to assist learners and facilitate, interactive learning focuses on students' needs, abilities, interests [2].

There are three widely spread forms of the interaction between a teacher and students: The idea of interaction in different modes are depicted in Figures 1, 2, 3 [2].

1. Passive methods;
2. Active methods;
3. Interactive methods.

Interactive teaching methods include presentations, heuristic conversations, role-play games, discussions, brainstorming, competitions based on practical tasks and their further discussion, writing business plans, projects, creative activities, use of multimedia computers programs and involvement of native speakers.

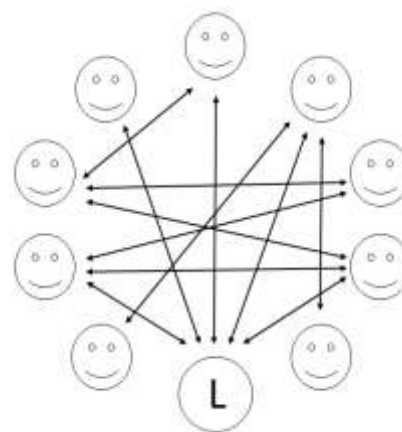
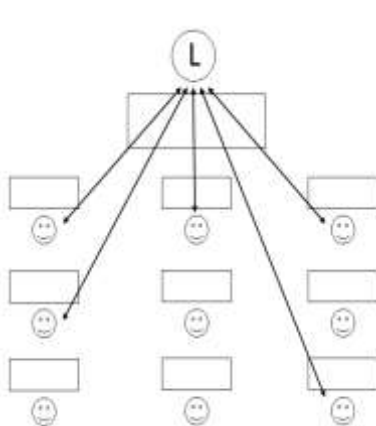
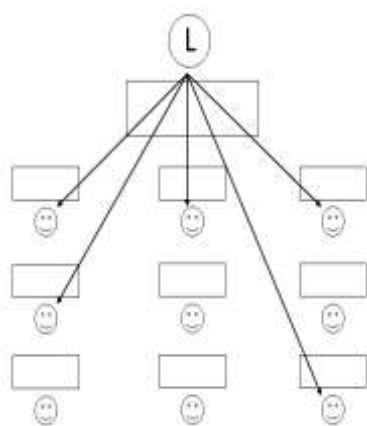


Fig.1. Passive method

Fig.2. Active method

Fig.3. Interactive method

It makes sense to combine all these methods and with contemporary visualization. Its classification in educational activities includes the following: mindmap, or intelligence cards; timeline, or time tapes; infographics; scribing [1, c. 18].

To sum up we can emphasize that interactive teaching techniques are a vital concern while teaching any language. But they have both advantages and disadvantages. Our own experience and recent research studies help to highlight the following differences and systematize them in Table 1.

**Table 1. Advantages and disadvantages of using interactive techniques in ESL classroom**

<b>advantages</b>	<b>disadvantages</b>
A lot fun for students;	Time consuming (Preparation for the activities can take a lot of time, efforts and energy);
Emotional freedom;	Interaction activities can be too loud, noisy and irritating for some participants and a facilitator;
A dialogue (as the most important instrument for learning) plays the first fiddle;	The discussion, dialogue can lead students to a different area (unrelated to the lesson);
Interactive techniques develop intrinsic and extrinsic motivation for learning;	Poorly planned activities may lead to monotony, repetition and boredom in the classroom;
They develop cooperative and leadership skills;	Bad time management may occur;
It's a great opportunity to develop critical and creative thinking;	Some instructions, tips and details may be ignored, as a result there may occur mistakes in learning;
They lead to self-knowledge, self-development, self-realization, self-improvement;	There may be the risk of remaining behind the schedule;

The facilitator (teacher) can easily get a feedback.	The curriculum puts pressure on the teachers, so that they cannot afford to use interactive methods too often.
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From our point of view it's up to a teacher (facilitator) to choose the appropriate methods and techniques in ESL classroom but it is proved that interactive methods help students immensely make rational decisions to develop the most acceptable models of thinking, action, and communication.

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