

TECHNIQUES TO INCREASE INTERACTIVITY OF ONLINE FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES

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Teaching a foreign language in an online environment often occurs in higher education as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic and Russian aggression against Ukraine. The perspectives of online learning have been researched by A. W. Bates [2], A. K. Bazylenko [1], I. B. Ivanova [1], N. V. Kondukoczova [1], V. G. Kyrylenko [1], M. L. Manegre [5] and others. Having studied the experience of Columbia University (USA) [3] and Cornell University (USA) [4] we singled out some effective techniques and tools that can be used to increase interactivity of online foreign language classes. Here we can include such techniques as Online Polling, Think-Pair-Share, a Minute Paper, Small Group Discussion and Short Student Presentation strategies. They may be effectively implemented with the help of educational online learning platforms, services and tools such as Zoom videoconferencing platform with its breakout rooms, polling, screen sharing, whiteboard and nonverbal feedback features, Poll Everywhere, CourseWorks Quiz, Canvas Quiz features, collaborative online tools such as LionMail (Google) Docs, Sheets, Slides, etc. Let's consider some of them.

Zoom is a video conferencing platform with the ability to facilitate live video conferences, breakout rooms, whiteboard and other features which make it effective for delivering online instruction. Zoom's polling feature enables teachers to create single-choice and multiple-choice (standard plan) and matching, rank order, short answer, long answer, fill in the blank or rating scale questions (advanced plan) to gather feedback, gauge understanding, and encourage engagement among students. In foreign language classes, the polling feature can be applied to test the understanding of new vocabulary, grammar rules, and cultural concepts.

Poll Everywhere is a web-based audience response system that can be used in a variety of ways, from quizzes and assessments to discussions and debates. Teachers can create multiple-choice, open-ended, or clickable image polls that allow students to respond to questions and provide feedback. Polls can be embedded into PowerPoint presentations or displayed on a separate screen, making it easy for teachers to incorporate interactive elements into their lessons.

The CourseWorks Quiz is a feature available within the CourseWorks learning management system. It allows teachers to create quizzes with a variety of question types, including multiple-choice, true/false, short answer, and essay questions. They can also add multimedia elements, such as images and videos, to their quizzes to enhance the learning experience.

The Think-Pair-Share technique is a collaborative learning strategy that encourages students to actively engage in classroom discussions. This technique involves three stages: thinking, pairing, and sharing. During the first stage, students are given a prompt or question to consider. They are then given time to think individually about their response. This stage allows students to reflect on their own thoughts and ideas before sharing them with others. In the second stage, students pair up with a partner to discuss their responses. This stage allows students to share their ideas with one another and to gain a better understanding of different perspectives. It also encourages collaboration and communication skills. In the third stage, students share their responses with the rest of the class. This stage allows students to hear different perspectives and ideas from their peers. It also provides an opportunity for the teacher to facilitate a class discussion based on the responses shared.

The Minute Paper technique involves asking students to take a minute to reflect on what they have learned and write a brief response. To use the Minute Paper technique, teachers can ask students to respond to one or more prompts, such as: What was the most important concept you

learned in class today? What was the most confusing part of today's lesson? How does today's material connect with what we have learned previously? Students are typically given a few minutes to write their responses, and then teachers can review them. The Minute Paper technique has several advantages. It is quick and easy to implement, requiring only a few minutes of class time and online tools, such as discussion forums or survey software. It allows teachers to assess student learning and understanding in real-time, providing immediate feedback. Finally, it encourages students to reflect on their learning, promoting deeper understanding and retention of course material.

Small Group Discussion technique involves dividing students into small groups of 3-5 to discuss a specific topic or question related to course material. The groups then reconvene, and each group presents their findings to the larger class. To facilitate effective small group discussions, teachers should provide clear guidelines and expectations for students and ensure that students have the necessary background knowledge and resources to engage with the material. Collaborative online tools, such as LionMail (Google) Docs, Sheets, Slides and Zoom's Nonverbal Feedback feature allowing students to express opinions by clicking on icons, discussion forums or video conferencing software are used to facilitate this activity.

In Short Student Presentation technique students are given a brief amount of time to present a report on a specific topic related to course material. These presentations can be done individually or in small groups. Teachers should provide opportunities for peer evaluation and feedback, which can help students learn from each other and develop their own presentation skills. After the presentations, teachers can facilitate a larger class discussion to summarize key points and promote critical thinking and analysis. Video conferencing software or other online tools are used to facilitate presentations and provide feedback.

Conclusions. Online foreign language learning classes can be highly effective and engaging for students when they are designed with interactivity in mind. The most efficient strategies for increasing interactivity in online classes are the following: using live video conferencing systems and software, incorporating interactive multimedia such as videos, animations, and simulations, using online discussion boards, utilizing interactive quizzes and polls, incorporating group discussions and collaboration activities, providing opportunities for feedback.

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