

Modern Methods And Tasks That Develop 21st-Century Skills In Mother-Tongue Lessons In Primary Education

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ABSTRACT

This article examines modern methods and tasks aimed at developing 21st-century skills in primary school students during mother-tongue lessons. It describes innovative instructional approaches as well as effective ways to apply these methods and tasks in the process of teaching the mother tongue.

Keywords: Modern approach, creativity, mother tongue, task, teaching process, skills, creative activity, teamwork, critical thinking, practical activity, cognition, pair work, 21st-century skills.

INTRODUCTION

Today's educational reforms create opportunities to develop students' competencies by applying modern approaches and innovations in the teaching and learning process. The way a child is shaped at the primary school age becomes a foundation for their future. Therefore, it is important to focus especially on the education and upbringing during this period in order to reveal each child's creative potential and abilities. Modern approaches and activating methods develop students' 21st-century skills, help them apply them in life, express their opinions independently, generalize, choose, and think critically and logically. They train students to seek reasonable answers and make correct decisions. They teach learners to notice and analyze even the details that are not easily observed by others, encouraging them to search, explore, and move toward their goals. Thus, primary-school textbooks created on the basis of the 4K model aim to develop students' skills in teamwork, pair work, creative and critical thinking. In this process, today's teachers must also be able to design and create tasks that develop students' creative thinking and creative abilities. The methods and tasks chosen should meet the requirements of modern education, focus on developing students' thinking skills, and serve to develop 21st-century competencies.

In primary-school mother-tongue classes, it is appropriate to offer tasks in the form of small subtasks and exercises according to the goals of the subject. Interactive methods and creative approaches in mother-tongue lessons help set strategic goals, solve problems, develop skills, and increase creative abilities. Finding activating methods for teaching mother tongue and using them appropriately helps develop students' thinking.

Methods and tasks that teach students to think creatively in primary-school mother-tongue lessons and strengthen the studied topics activate learners and help them analyze and reflect.

Today it is useful to give tasks aimed at developing students' creative thinking and creative abilities, which are among the 21st-century skills. Using the most effective methods makes the teaching process even more qualitative. Modern, advanced methods involve teachers designing tasks based on real-life situations, which develop students' active independent work. As a result, students rely on their own knowledge, gain relevant skills during the process of finding solutions, and their thinking abilities develop.

Modern tasks belong to student-centered teaching

technologies and aim to spark genuine interest. A modern approach and its tasks make it possible to demonstrate the logic of the situation. Using modern tasks in primary mother-tongue lessons helps develop students' creative abilities. It ensures that students learn to justify their opinions, build coherent texts based on logic, correctly form achievable future goals, set strategic goals through creative approaches, solve problems, and develop their creative abilities. We can observe that using tasks corresponding to the topics of the mother-tongue textbook for each grade yields good results.

The 4K-based structure of textbooks provides step-by-step learning from simple to complex and is designed to help students acquire real-life skills, showing that they are created according to international educational requirements.

The main feature of developing thinking in primary-school learners is to teach them to separate essential aspects of real-world phenomena and to form new generalizations independently.

Even when thinking about simple things, a young child does not stop at external features—he tries to discover the essence of events and find general ideas from everyday life. This leads to many questions, and young children frequently ask adults for answers. Human thinking still contains great unused and unexplored potential. This process in young children begins with the emergence of questions, defining practical tasks, and searching for solutions. In lessons and outside activities, this is seen in the form of a clear task or problem that needs to be solved. A methodology aimed at developing 21st-century skills includes modern ways of organizing the educational process and focuses on developing the necessary knowledge, skills, and competencies.

Therefore, the meaning of the method and task selected by the teacher must be clear and directly aimed at developing skills.

“What Changed?” method

This method sharpens students' minds and encourages creativity. It teaches them to compare and distinguish each idea. Students receive creatively designed cards with different sentences. They must read the sentences and find what has changed.

Example:

1. The bear lives in the forest. He likes honey.

Changed version: The bear lives in the forest. He likes jam.

2. A gentle breeze blew, bringing the scent of flowers.

Changed version: A gentle breeze blew, carrying away the scent of flowers.

3. A flower contest will be held at school today.

Changed version: An art contest will be held at school today.

“Find Me in the Pictures” method

The topic can be studied through drawing. Students communicate based on pictures and learn to express ideas. Pictures help students develop imagination. They receive various guiding questions based on the content of the work.

Effectiveness:

Students learn to think, reflect, search for quick answers, approach logically, and express independent and concise ideas.

“Choose a Balloon” method

This method develops speech, fluent speaking, and correct expression. Students are given balloons of different colors. They choose one and answer the question written on it.

Procedure:

A student selects a balloon. A question is attached to it. The student reads it and answers quickly and thoughtfully.



Task: “Where Is My Word?”

Students must find the missing words in the sentences below and complete them.

Word bank: fig, peach, cherry, apple, quince, apricot, fruit, grandfather, gardener

1. A bright red ripe ... on the branch catches the eye.

Word	Synonym 1	Synonym 2
Wind	breeze	gentle wind
Smile	laughter	slight smile

Example:

b-baloon

r-rope

e –elephant

e- energy

z-zoo

e- egg

Such tasks develop students’ thinking and reasoning. They encourage independent creative thinking and improve communication skills.

Modern approaches aim to create conditions for continuous

2. The yellow ... is very useful.

3. The fruit that strengthens the heart is

Additional task: Make new sentences using these words.

“**Contact” method.** One participant becomes the “admin.”

The admin asks questions and calls out a number.

Example:

“Who can tell what the text was about? number 1!”

Whichever number is called must answer briefly.

Each participant receives a numbered card representing a “phone contact.”

Task. In the given table, write the synonyms of each word. Then, using the synonyms in the second row, create open-syllable words from the letters.

development of professional skills and competencies. Forming new knowledge, skills, and competencies based on advanced foreign experience determines the success of the educational process.

The way a child is formed at the primary age determines their future life. Therefore, to reveal each child’s creative potential, modern education during this period is essential. To fill gaps in their knowledge, it is important to provide tasks that encourage creative thinking.

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