

WORKING WITH FOREIGN LANGUAGE DICTIONARIES AS A WAY TO ENRICH VOCABULARY

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In the article we study the impact of using foreign languages dictionaries for vocabulary enriching. The main advantages and problems of this method applying are described and analyzed, the ways of the problem resolution are proposed.

Introduction. Mastering a language, including a foreign one, cannot be imagined without working with dictionaries. A variety of dictionaries, with proper use, allows one to develop skills in working with lexical units, improve oral and written speech, including vocabulary enrichment.

The main part. One of the basic units of a language as a complex phenomenon is the word. It is important to understand what the vocabulary is and what role it plays in the formation of the interlocutor's speech. Vocabulary is all words, the meaning of which is understood and / or used by an individual in his speech practice [2, p. 21]. Therefore, we can conclude that vocabulary is the most important element in the process of forming the conscious speech of each person. The volume and sophistication of the vocabulary determine the structure of speech, the potential topic which the utterance will be built on.

The total of words of a single language is an asset, the result of everyday life and technology development history within a particular nationality. Dictionaries were created to facilitate the process of learning a native or a foreign language. Dictionaries are an indispensable tool for building up vocabulary.

It is worth listing the main types of dictionaries that fix the vocabulary of most of the world's languages. We distinguish linguistic dictionaries that describe information about a word in a certain period of time or in the process of speech development. Terminological dictionaries include terms of a specific field of knowledge. Explanatory dictionaries describe the meanings of words and phraseological units. Dictionaries of antonyms and synonyms include lexical units that are opposite or similar in meaning to the given one, respectively. Etymological dictionaries describe the history of a word origin. Dictionaries of foreign words include articles with borrowed words of the language, their spelling, pronunciation, and etymology.

Working with a complex of dictionaries leads to a significant expansion of the vocabulary. The value of such work can be underestimated due to the traditionally rare use of dictionaries in the study of a native language. Many lexical units from the earliest years are understood by people intuitively. We do not always need additional checking with the help of dictionaries. However, this approach generates a large number of uses of incorrect lexical units due to the lack of their meaning (or coloring of meaning) comprehension. Dictionaries for the study of a native language are beginning to be actively used at school. In elementary school students use explanatory dictionaries to check the accuracy in definitions and enlarge vocabulary. In high school, for some tasks, dictionaries of synonyms, paronyms, antonyms and etymological dictionaries are applied. However, this usage allows one to solve only a specific problem, but not to get progress in the development of vocabulary.

The systematic use of dictionaries contributes to the development of vocabulary. A positive example is the use of dictionaries in the study of foreign languages. The study of a foreign language begins with an introductory phonetic course and the study of the first new lexical units for a student studying a foreign language. In such cases, foreign language dictionaries are often used. A foreign language dictionary is a dictionary related to a language which contrasts with the native one. Such dictionaries allow one to get acquainted with the vocabulary which is necessary for the speaker to be understood in the countries using the target language. We study pronouns, numerals, names of flowers, days of the week, animals, etc. Work with explanatory dictionaries continues throughout the study of a foreign language. However, dictionaries with foreign-language definitions, dictionaries of synonyms and antonyms are rarely used, but the use of these dictionaries could make a great contribution to the vocabulary formation process.

To organize productive work with foreign dictionaries, one must adhere to the following methodological principles:

- a gradual formation of skills in working with dictionaries;
- a systematic use in the construction of oral and written speech;
- a creative orientation;
- considering age and psychological characteristics;

- providing open access to the main types of dictionaries;
- a constant updating of the importance of working with foreign language dictionaries.

Dictionaries of synonyms and antonyms allow a person to study additional shading meanings of lexical units. This allows one to enlarge the vocabulary with new units, to correctly select and use lexical units depending on the context.

In almost every language in the world, we can distinguish a separate group of words, which is called borrowed vocabulary. Borrowed vocabulary are words that have entered the language from other languages, it is opposed to the original vocabulary [5, p. 197]. Various difficulties arise during the work with this group of words. For example, there may be difficulties with pronunciation and word stress rules. Some borrowings have features related to categories of gender and number. Working with foreign language dictionaries enables one to study the original meanings of words and become acquainted with their peculiarities. Working with dictionaries allows one to eliminate the above problems, thereby making corrections in a person's vocabulary and making his speech purer. It is important to use precisely foreign-language dictionaries, since they contain dictionary entries that convey the original meaning or definition. These meanings were laid down by the native people of the language as a result of a long development of the language.

In addition to single words, we also highlight set expressions. For example, such expressions as: weekend, non-stop, duty-free, etc. Many of them were also borrowed and became a part of our everyday speech. Phraseological foreign language dictionaries also contain information about set expressions. Using such dictionaries allows one to learn about new expressions and the accuracy in their use.

Special notes in dictionary entries enable one to divide the studied vocabulary into different topics. Information about attribution to a particular area of social life is often presented in square brackets. Such marks help to better understand the meaning of a word and use it in accordance with the original meaning.

Equally important is the work on transferring new vocabulary from passive into active vocabulary. In childhood, it is recommended to learn a maximum of 4-6 new words a day, this figure increases in accordance with age. To practice the memorized units, the following types of exercises are used:

- the use of a lexical unit in context;
- an independent selection of synonyms and antonyms;
- a search for shade meanings of a word;
- a composition of phrases or sentences.

It is necessary to refer to dictionaries during the work with each of the tasks. Dictionaries, including foreign ones, often contain dictionary entries with examples of the use of the lexical unit under study.

K. D. Ushinsky called such activities entertaining. To systematize such work, he suggested using riddles, rebuses, tongue twisters as well as the examples from classical and modern literature. With a sufficient level of readiness, it is possible to create your own thematic dictionaries, including foreign ones. Such a task activates research activity and gives motivation to study the dictionaries written by famous authors.

An important condition for continuing work with dictionaries is a well-chosen text, video- or audio fragments with which a person contacts. Such fragments should contain previously unknown vocabulary, which will motivate a person to turn to the dictionary again. It is necessary to strive to study previously unknown phenomena and get acquainted with terms from various spheres of social life. This material enables a person to intensify the work with dictionaries and improve the vocabulary.

Another important point is the frequent analysis of the word. It is necessary not only to memorize the graphic spelling of a word, but to conduct a detailed analysis, which allows to determine the etymology of the word, find morphological features, and discover a root-word. For this work, one will also need various dictionaries, foreign words must be parsed using foreign dictionaries.

The use of foreign language dictionaries enables to correct the idea of certain lexical units use, thereby making qualitative changes in the vocabulary. For example, many foreign words are used incorrectly in oral speech. Over time there are some changes in attitudes towards various social phenomena, the meanings of words also change. For example, in colloquial speech, the foreign language word "brutal" is often used implying positive semantics. However, this word is of foreign language origin and for its correct use it is necessary to address foreign language dictionaries. For example, in the Cambridge Dictionary of English we find the following article: brutal – very violent or cruel. As it becomes clear from the definition, this word has negative semantics. A similar situation, for example, is with the word "ambitious": according to the article in a foreign language dictionary, ambitious – wanting to be successful or powerful. However, in oral speech, the word is often used with different meanings.

Conclusion. Based on the stated above, we can conclude that the use of dictionaries is a good tool for enlarging vocabulary. Of course, the use must be reasonable and systematic. The address to foreign language dictionaries should be a necessity for completing part of the assignments in various disciplines related to languages. Teachers should more often draw students' attention to such dictionaries, introduce them to new types of dictionaries and motivate them to use various dictionaries. Many books should contain necessary footnotes and references to dictionary entries from foreign dictionaries. These measures will increase the frequency of using foreign-language dictionaries, which will lead to the development of the population's speech and the euphony of oral and written utterances.

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