



THE IMPACT OF READING STRATEGIES ON ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Behruzkhon Yuldoshev Behzod ugli

Student of the Uzbekistan State World Languages University

Annotation: This article explores the importance of using effective reading strategies in improving English language proficiency among EFL learners. The research highlights the relationship between reading comprehension techniques and overall language development, focusing on cognitive, metacognitive, and social-affective strategies that enhance vocabulary, grammar, and critical thinking skills.

Keywords: reading strategies, English proficiency, comprehension, EFL learners, metacognitive skills.

Аннотация: В статье рассматривается роль эффективных стратегий чтения в повышении уровня владения английским языком у изучающих его как иностранный. Исследование подчеркивает связь между методами понимания текста и общим языковым развитием, включая когнитивные, метакогнитивные и социально-аффективные стратегии, которые способствуют расширению словарного запаса, улучшению грамматики и развитию критического мышления.

Ключевые слова: стратегии чтения, владение английским, понимание текста, изучающие английский язык, метакогнитивные навыки.

Reading is one of the most essential language skills that contribute to the overall proficiency of English as a Foreign Language (EFL) learners. The ability to understand written texts not only enhances vocabulary acquisition but also improves grammatical accuracy, writing skills, and critical thinking. However, many learners face challenges when reading in English due to limited vocabulary, lack of background knowledge, or ineffective strategies. Thus, developing appropriate reading strategies becomes a crucial factor in achieving language fluency and comprehension.

Reading strategies can be broadly categorized into cognitive, metacognitive, and social-affective strategies.





1. **Cognitive Strategies** Cognitive strategies include skimming, scanning, predicting, summarizing, and inferring meaning from context. For instance, learners who skim texts for general meaning tend to improve their reading speed and comprehension (Oxford, 2011). Using contextual clues helps learners guess unknown words and enhances vocabulary retention.

2. **Metacognitive Strategies** These involve planning, monitoring, and evaluating one's own reading process. According to Anderson (2002), metacognitive readers are aware of their understanding and can adjust their strategies to overcome difficulties. Techniques such as self-questioning and summarizing paragraphs after reading increase engagement and comprehension depth.

3. **Social-Affective Strategies** Social-affective strategies involve interaction and motivation. Reading in pairs, discussing texts, or joining reading clubs encourages collaboration and improves confidence in language use. Emotional factors like interest, motivation, and anxiety management also affect reading outcomes (Chamot, 2005).

4. **Integrating Reading Strategies in Teaching** Teachers play a key role in developing strategic readers. Explicit instruction on how to preview texts, identify main ideas, and infer meaning from context should be included in EFL classrooms. Technology-based tools such as e-books, online dictionaries, and reading apps can also enhance learner autonomy and motivation.

5. **Effects on Language Proficiency** Empirical studies have shown that students who actively use a variety of reading strategies achieve higher levels of English proficiency (Grabe & Stoller, 2013). Regular reading not only improves comprehension but also boosts speaking and writing performance by expanding vocabulary and reinforcing grammatical patterns.

Effective reading strategies are fundamental to improving English language proficiency. They enable learners to process texts more efficiently, expand their vocabulary, and strengthen their critical thinking skills. Teachers should incorporate strategic reading instruction into their curricula to foster autonomous and motivated readers. The integration of modern digital tools can further enhance reading efficiency and engagement among EFL students.





Reading strategies play an important role in helping learners improve their English language proficiency. When students use effective strategies such as skimming, scanning, predicting, summarizing, and guessing the meaning of new words from context, they can understand texts more easily. These strategies help learners to become more active and independent readers. By practicing different reading techniques, students also develop their vocabulary, grammar knowledge, and overall comprehension skills.

Good readers do not read every word slowly. Instead, they focus on main ideas, look for key information, and connect new information with what they already know. This helps them to read faster and understand better. Teachers can guide students in using these strategies by giving examples and exercises during reading lessons.

Using reading strategies regularly also improves other language skills such as writing and speaking, because reading provides new words, sentence structures, and ideas. Students who read actively are often more confident when they use English in real-life communication. Therefore, developing reading strategies is an essential part of learning English as a foreign language.

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