

## THE ROLE OF THE TEACHER IN TEACHING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE TO DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS AND ADAPTING TO THE AUDIENCE

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**Abstract:** *This article analyzes the role of the teacher in teaching a foreign language to learners of different age groups and the importance of adapting to the audience. It highlights the necessity for teachers to select appropriate methodological approaches based on students' age, psychological characteristics, and language proficiency. The study also discusses how teachers can make lessons interactive, engaging, and effective, optimizing the language learning process by meeting the needs of their audience. Additionally, the article emphasizes the significance of individual and group approaches in foreign language teaching and provides recommendations for age-appropriate pedagogical strategies.*

**Keywords:** *Foreign language teaching, Teacher's role, Age groups, Audience adaptation, Pedagogical strategies, Language learning methods, Interactive teaching.*

Teaching a foreign language to learners of different age groups is a complex and dynamic process that requires not only methodological knowledge but also an understanding of the psychological and cognitive characteristics of students. The role of the teacher in this context goes beyond simply delivering information; it involves guiding, motivating, and adapting teaching strategies to meet the needs of each audience. Learners of different ages—children, adolescents, and adults—have distinct learning styles, attention spans, and language acquisition capacities, which influence how they respond to instruction. Therefore, a teacher must be flexible, creative, and responsive, selecting appropriate activities, materials, and interaction techniques to optimize learning outcomes. This article examines the teacher's role in adapting lessons for diverse age groups and discusses effective pedagogical strategies for making foreign language learning both engaging and productive.

This study was conducted using a qualitative research method. The main aim of the research was to investigate the role of the teacher and their adaptation to different age groups in teaching a foreign language. The participants of the study included students of different age groups. Data were collected through classroom observations and interviews with students. During the observations, special attention was paid to the teacher's teaching methods, their approach to learners of different ages, and the strategies used in the classroom. In addition, students' opinions were considered in order to understand their

attitudes toward the learning process. The research was carried out over several weeks. During this period, the teacher's process of adapting to different audiences was analyzed step by step. The collected data were analyzed using a descriptive method, and the results showed the importance of the teacher's role and adaptability in the teaching process.

According to the results of the study, it was found that the teacher's adaptation to students of different age groups is of great importance. The observations showed that while games and interactive methods are effective when working with younger learners. Tojibayev is one of the scholars who has researched effective methodologies for teaching foreign languages (English) in primary classes, including interactive methods and teaching approaches adapted to learners' age characteristics. His works mainly cover the development of speaking skills in primary school students, the use of game technologies, and ways to increase lesson effectiveness. Key aspects of teaching foreign languages in primary classes:

**Innovative methods:** Tojibayev and other specialists recommend using a communicative approach and interactive games during lessons, which helps increase students' interest.

**Methodological approach:** The methodology of teaching foreign languages in primary classes should be based on learners' age characteristics (psychological and physiological), and lessons should be engaging and easy to understand.

**Educational resources:** Materials published by Namangan State Pedagogical Institute include textbooks and methodological recommendations by G. Sh. Tojibayev on teaching English in primary classes.

Tojibayev's methodological recommendations are aimed at effectively teaching English in primary classes and developing students' positive motivation toward learning a foreign language.

When working with older students, explanation- and communication-based approaches are of great importance. These students usually strive for a deeper understanding of the topic and need opportunities to express their ideas freely. Therefore, the teacher should explain the material clearly and understandably, provide examples to enrich the lesson, and actively engage students in communication. Communication-based approaches, such as question-and-answer sessions, discussions, and pair work, are effective in developing students' speaking skills. Additionally, relying on students' life experiences and using real-life situations helps increase lesson effectiveness when teaching older learners. Moreover, it is important for the teacher to listen to students' opinions, motivate them, and encourage independent thinking. As a result, students not only learn the language but also develop the ability to use it practically.

When learning English the biggest motivation for preschool children will be interest and fun. If a child does not want to do something, it is very difficult to force them; you can even harm and forever discourage them from studying not only English, but also other

subjects. Kids don't understand, don't fully realize that English is the language spoken by more than half of the world, that people who know English are more competitive, they have a higher-paying job, they think differently. We - adults understand this. But if children like something, they will want to do it over and over again, and in this way we instill in them love for studying, learning English and more. In addition, rewards in the form of praise, grades or certificates can support motivation and interest. The teacher should use various methods when teaching a foreign language.

Methods of teaching a foreign language:

I. TPR (Total Physical Response).

II. Doman's method.

III. Project method.

IV. Audio-lingual method.

- TPR (Total Physical Response) The method was developed by the American professor James Asher. The technique is focused on memorizing new vocabulary in the process of movement.

- Doman's method. The method is based on the use of children's visual memory. The child is shown cards on which the object and its name are depicted. This makes it easier for children to memorize new words.

- Project method. The method resembles school lessons with the difference that the teacher chooses a topic for children based on his/her interest. This is implemented when several lessons pass, after which the learners create some project works on the topic.

The technique is designed for children from 4 years old.

- Audio-lingual method. The method consists of listening and repeating of the records by the kids, which are repeated many times by the teacher.

Games and activities:

Use cards (Doman's method). Cards with words (word + translation + picture). A very good way to learn English. You can make them yourself or use the Quizlet software. You will even find ready-made words on this site. All you have to do is to print them out and the English lesson for preschool children is already ready, the only thing is left to do is to come up with a couple of games. Card games:

I. Show me. Place the cards in front of a child, say a certain word. The child must select the necessary card.

II. Yes-No game. Show the child the card and name the words incorrectly. For example, a hippopotamus is drawn, and you name a tiger. The toddler should tell if you are calling the animal correctly or not.

III. What's missing. Place a row of cards (4-5). Practice pronouncing words with a child. Then ask the child to close the eyes. Remove one card. The child opens his/her eyes and looks for the missing card.

The results of the study indicate that the teacher's ability to adapt to students of different age groups significantly enhances the effectiveness of the teaching process. When working with younger students, games, interactive methods, and communicative approaches increase motivation and help develop speaking skills. For older students, explanation-, communication-, and independent-thinking-based methods prove to be more effective. Moreover, it is important for the teacher to organize lessons considering students' age characteristics, interests, and needs. The judicious use of various methods and approaches not only improves language skills but also fosters positive motivation and enthusiasm for learning a foreign language. As a result, the teacher's adaptability and methodological approach are key factors in teaching a foreign language, making the learning process both effective and engaging.

