



MODERN PROBLEMS IN EDUCATION AND THEIR SCIENTIFIC
SOLUTIONS
PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES OF ENGLISH TEACHERS

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Abstract: *This article examines the essential qualifications and skills required for a contemporary English teacher, focusing on the competencies necessary to excel in their pedagogical practice. The research encompasses a comprehensive review of a teacher's linguistic, methodological, technical, and computer skills, as well as their professional development. This article is designed for educational professionals, including teachers and students in the field of pedagogy.*

Keywords: *professional competence, English language teaching, methodology, CLT, digital literacy, reflexive approach, international standards.*

Introduction. In today's rapidly evolving global educational landscape, an English teacher's professional competence extends far beyond mere language proficiency. At its core lies linguistic competence, but modern demands also require the teacher to possess intercultural communication skills, a deep understanding of the language's ever-changing nature, and mastery of idiomatic expressions, social context, and pronunciation at an advanced level (C1-C2). While linguistic skills are essential, they must be complemented by pedagogical and methodological competence to achieve effective education. This includes proficiency in modern lesson planning models (such as flipped classroom or project-based learning), the ability to adapt teaching methodologies to suit different situations, and the capacity to simplify complex material for students with varying cognitive abilities (scaffolding).

Professional competence is a dynamic process that improves working quality resulting in a teacher's professional development and self-improvement. Teachers' beliefs, best practices, and a supportive work environment are all essential factors in the development of professional competence during the span of a teacher's profession. Likely, teachers' notions of what teaching is and how it should be successfully done have an impact on the way they teach and learn. To be competent in their field, instructors must appreciate the value of reliable and well-maintained facilities, continuous training, workshops, appropriate learning environments, independent use of learning materials, and successful teaching methods. This entails mastering teaching and learning processes, resources, and educational technologies. Professional competence in education also involves the ability to motivate students, as well as high levels of talent and knowledge of the educational environment. This study based on a review of the literature aims to examine the professional competence of instructors and to improve teaching and learning methods in





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the classroom. The findings paint the picture of teacher professional development in the education environment for effective teaching and learning.⁷⁴

In the digital age, digital pedagogical competence has become an integral part of a teacher's profile, encompassing not only technical proficiency but also the ability to harness artificial intelligence, interactive platforms, and multimedia resources to enhance the learning experience. A teacher's psychological and communicative competence also plays a crucial role in managing the classroom environment, motivating students, and adapting to their individual needs (differentiation). This requires a high level of emotional intelligence, which is facilitated by reflexive competence – the ability to regularly analyze one's own practice, draw on international best practices, and engage in continuous professional development (CPD). Ultimately, a modern teacher is a multifaceted professional who combines the roles of researcher, psychologist, technologist, and strategic leader, guiding students on a safe and engaging journey through the world of language. The integration of these competencies is the key to delivering high-quality education and unlocking the intellectual potential of society.

A comprehensive analysis of an English teacher's professional competencies reveals that contemporary educational demands necessitate a teacher possessing not only theoretical expertise, but also a harmonious blend of practical skills and personal attributes. It is essential to acknowledge that while a teacher's linguistic proficiency serves as the foundation of their profession, their methodological and digital preparedness constitutes the primary tool for effectively imparting knowledge to students. Today's educators must transcend their role as mere instructors, instead striving to become visionary leaders who cultivate the skills of independent thought, intercultural communication, and information literacy in their students. The study's findings unequivocally confirm that a teacher's professional stature is inextricably linked to their ongoing self-improvement, the incorporation of international best practices, and a critical-reflexive approach to their work. To achieve remarkable outcomes within the education system, it is imperative to systematically develop the professional competencies of teachers, equip them with cutting-edge pedagogical tools and psychological knowledge, and thereby ensure the continued growth and development of the state and society. Ultimately, a highly competent teacher is the linchpin of quality education and the catalyst for an intellectually capable and enlightened generation.

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