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Online or distance teaching and learning of foreign languages: peculiarities, problems and prospects

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Annotaion: The process of changing and switching from traditional teaching to e-teaching and learning have been developing over two decades. Since the appearance of huge archives presented on machine-readable media, more and more often the idea arose to use this material for educational purposes. Globally, this all became possible with the development of the Internet, which made it possible to send the required amount of data from one end of the world to another, freely communicate with other network users online and post information on Internet sites, making them available to everyone. In this article we will review and analyze advantages and drawbacks, development and specialties of such education.

Key words: online teaching and learning, specialties, advantages, drawbacks.

The term online learning has come into European countries recently. New force this term obtained all over the world during quarantine period. Online learning is a form of distant teaching or learning that has long been part of the American education system, and has become the largest distance learning department in recent years (Bartley & Golek, 2004; Evans & Haase, 2001). [1, p.89]. For the purposes of this review both hybrid and blended learning and purely online learning are considered online learning as much of the resources

compare these two formats to traditional face-to-face learning. Purely online courses are courses that are delivered entirely over the Internet, and hybrid or blended learning combines traditional face-to-face instruction, learning over the Internet, and learning supported by other technologies.

The review of this interesting topic will be discovered from the first steps in this area such as: CD-ROM based courses, which appeared first, then distance learning, then came e-learning. There were several advantages – the idea was new and modern those days, all information was on one electronic device, methodologically structured material and interactive possibilities in education. There were drawbacks too, such as: limits in course volume, much time on its creation, no opportunity for its modification.

Later, distance teaching and learning appeared and another educational approach was created which had not above-mentioned drawbacks and had additional opportunities. In the base of such education was put controlled and intensive explanation by teacher and student's self-work. The advantages are for both sides: teachers and students. The participants of educational process can stay in comfortable places, by individual schedule, having comfortable platform and coherent interaction of teachers and students. Whereas, for students - it's flexibility of educational process, opportunity to choose and ask for additional materials according to own needs, independent teacher's methodology and knowledge assessment, the opportunity for students to have consultations.

For teachers, this form of training initially means the obtaining of an additional opportunity to present material to students, sharing different materials and make records for further revision and listening, and moreover, it becomes possible to teach more students with the same internet sources.

Not surprisingly, with all its obvious advantages, distance learning quickly gained great popularity in the educational world. Later large corporations also became interested in it, fairly assuming that this form of training would

allow them to quickly, relatively inexpensively, efficiently and, most importantly, improve the level of training of their personnel on the job. Recently, the degree of involvement of the Internet in education, the number of online courses, their subject matter, different ways of implementation and the general focus in general have led to the emergence of a more capacious term "e-Learning". The European Commission defines e-Learning as "the use of new multimedia and Internet technologies to improve the quality of learning by improving access to resources and services, as well as remote knowledge sharing and collaboration". E-learning today is an educational process that uses interactive electronic means of information delivery: CDs; corporate networks; Internet. [2, p.310]. In addition to addressing its primary goal of distance learning via the Internet, e-Learning is also an excellent complement to face-to-face education and can be a good tool to improve the quality and effectiveness of traditional learning.

We would like to emphasize the most important fact in the whole and this specific educational process – the experience and motivation of teacher to provide the material, to encourage students, personal treats of character and control of efficient material transmitting and understanding. [3, p.179]. We could give own experience increasing of speaking practice during the lessons, listening practice and grammar practice by sharing the screen and giving and explaining the most difficult topics. As a result, we can see the focus of students on particular subject and no distraction to small talks and involvement in process.

The main task of distance learning English is teaching language in a personality-oriented approach according to its organizing individually or a subgroup of students on an individual basis. It should be done to understand not only the abilities and capabilities of each child, but also his or her mental features. [4, p.622-623].

Teachers are recommended from time to time to send out educational materials and organize access to information channels. Materials sent by should

contain educational and methodological program; test questions and test listening and grammar tasks.

As we can see form the history and development of distance education, we can forecast the prospects of its growth. First, a teacher, using e-learning technologies, can teach a larger number of students who are geographically are situated in different parts of the country, city, etc. In the traditional "face-to-face" learning process, the teacher has the feedback necessary for learning immediately, reacts to it, "on the fly" rearranging the educational material, has the opportunity to make this material more accessible in front of the students. Of course, for the preparation of electronic courses, the experience of expert teachers, or team of teachers in one particular field should be used. Flexibility of all process and interactions gives additional advantages.

Today it is obvious that electronic education is not a temporary hobby, but today it is necessary to take care of a comprehensive solution to the listed problems, to create an interuniversity Center for assessing the quality of electronic courses, for training teachers, to draw the attention of companies operating in the information technology market to the problems of comprehensive informatization of universities. We can absolutely certainly conclude that this area of education will transform and develop in the modern technological and fast-growing digital world.

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