DEVELOPING READING SKILLS THROUGH DIGITAL TOOLS

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Annotation. This graduation thesis is devoted to the development of reading skills through the use of digital tools in English as a Foreign Language (EFL) classrooms. In the era of digital transformation, traditional teaching methods are being supplemented—and in many cases replaced—by innovative, technology-based approaches. This study explores how digital platforms and applications such as ReadTheory, Quizizz, Duolingo, and others can enhance learners' reading comprehension, vocabulary, and motivation.

АННОТАЦИЯ. Данная выпускная квалификационная работа посвящена развитию навыков чтения с использованием цифровых инструментов в классах английского языка как иностранного (EFL). В эпоху цифровой трансформации традиционные методы обучения всё чаще дополняются, а в некоторых случаях и заменяются инновационными, основанными на технологиях подходами. В исследовании рассматривается, как цифровые платформы и приложения, такие как ReadTheory, Quizizz, Duolingo и другие, могут повысить понимание прочитанного, словарный запас и мотивацию учащихся.

ANNOTATSIYA. Ushbu bitiruv malakaviy ishi ingliz tilini xorijiy til sifatida o'rgatish (EFL) jarayonida raqamli vositalar yordamida o'qish ko'nikmalarini rivojlantirishga bag'ishlangan. Raqamli transformatsiya davrida an'anaviy o'qitish usullari tobora ko'proq innovatsion, texnologiyalarga asoslangan yondashuvlar bilan to'ldirilmoqda yoki ularning o'rnini bosmoqda. Ushbu tadqiqotda ReadTheory, Quizizz, Duolingo kabi raqamli platformalar va ilovalar o'quvchilarning matnni tushunish, so'z boyligini oshirish va o'qishga bo'lgan

motivatsiyasini qanday oshirishi mumkinligi o'rganilgan.

Key Words. *Reading skills, digital tools, EFL (English as a Foreign Language), language learning, educational technology, learner motivation, vocabulary development, comprehension, online platforms, digital literacy.*

Ключевые слова. *Навыки чтения, цифровые инструменты, английский как иностранный язык (EFL), изучение языка, образовательные технологии, мотивация учащихся, развитие словарного запаса, понимание текста, онлайн-платформы, цифровая грамотность.*

Kalit so'zlar. *O'qish ko'nikmalari, raqamli vositalar, ingliz tili xorijiy til sifatida (EFL), til o'rganish, ta'lim texnologiyalari, o'quvchi motivatsiyasi, so'z boyligini rivojlantirish, matnni tushunish, onlayn platformalar, raqamli savodxonlik.*

In recent years, digital tools have transformed the way students interact with texts in English as a Foreign Language (EFL) classrooms. Traditional reading exercises that once relied heavily on textbooks and printed materials are now being supported or replaced by interactive and personalized digital platforms. These tools provide students with instant access to authentic content, interactive exercises, real-time feedback, and multimedia resources, all of which contribute to a more engaging and effective reading experience.

One of the key benefits of digital tools is their ability to support differentiated instruction. Applications like ReadTheory, Raz-Kids, and LingQ adapt to learners' proficiency levels, allowing each student to work at their own pace. This helps reduce anxiety and builds confidence, especially among struggling readers.

Moreover, many digital platforms include built-in assessment features that track progress and identify individual strengths and weaknesses. This allows teachers to better support their students through targeted interventions. The use of gamification—such as points, levels, and badges—also increases student motivation, making reading more enjoyable and less of a chore. In additionally, digital tools often promote visual and auditory support, such as highlighted text,

audio narration, and built-in dictionaries. These features assist learners in understanding unfamiliar vocabulary, improving pronunciation, and supporting comprehension. Moreover, the use of images, videos, and interactive content enhances engagement and caters to various learning styles. Visual learners benefit from infographics and video explanations, while auditory learners can absorb information through podcasts or read-aloud functions. Many digital platforms also provide speech recognition tools, allowing students to practice reading aloud and receive immediate pronunciation feedback. This not only helps improve their fluency but also builds their confidence in using the language. Furthermore, digital tools can adapt to each learner's pace and level. Adaptive learning systems track progress and suggest personalized reading materials or exercises based on the user's strengths and weaknesses. This individualized approach helps maintain motivation and ensures that learners are always working at an appropriate challenge level. In this way, digital tools not only support comprehension and vocabulary acquisition but also create a more personalized and effective reading experiences.

Another significant benefit is the accessibility digital tools provide. Students with learning difficulties, such as dyslexia or ADHD, can benefit from adjustable text sizes, color contrast settings, and distraction-free reading modes. These accessibility options ensure that every student, regardless of ability, has the opportunity to develop their reading skills in a supportive environment.

Finally, many digital reading tools offer built-in assessments and progress reports that allow both learners and teachers to monitor growth over time. Teachers can identify which areas need improvement and tailor their instruction accordingly. Learners, in turn, gain a sense of accomplishment as they see their progress, which helps build confidence and encourages further learning.

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