

## THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERACTIVE METHODS IN DEVELOPING DISCURSIVE COMPETENCE AMONG HIGHER LEVEL STUDENTS

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**Annotation:** This article analyzes the role and significance of interactive teaching methods in developing discursive competence among senior school students. It explores the concept of discursive competence, defines its relevance in the educational context, and presents practical techniques such as debates, brainstorming, and role-playing games. These methods enhance students' independent thinking, critical reasoning, oral and written expression, and their ability to engage in effective communication. The study emphasizes how such interactive approaches not only improve language skills but also contribute to students' social activity and personal growth in real-life situations.

**Keywords:** Discursive competence, interactive methods, debate, brainstorming, role-playing, critical thinking, communication skills, senior students, educational development.

### Introduction

In modern education, fostering students' ability to think independently, engage in open dialogue, and express their ideas with evidence-based reasoning is of utmost importance. These competencies are especially vital for senior students, as they form the foundation for future social participation, maturity, and a successful life. From this perspective, the development of discursive competence is one of the most urgent tasks.

Discursive competence refers to an individual's ability to conduct logical, coherent, and contextually appropriate communication, actively participate in conversations, defend their position, and understand others. It reflects a student's social, cultural, linguistic, and intellectual capabilities.

Interactive methods—particularly debates, role-playing activities, and brainstorming—play a crucial role in developing this competence. Debate activities involve participants presenting opposing viewpoints on a given topic, supporting their arguments, and defending their opinions, thus promoting critical thinking, decision-

making, speech culture, and teamwork. The influence of debates on students' manifests in several key aspects.

Firstly, debates encourage active participation in class and motivate students to express their thoughts freely. Each student strives to substantiate their ideas, fostering independent and critical thinking.

Secondly, during debates, students acquire new vocabulary and expressions and use them in context, which enriches their linguistic resources.

Thirdly, debates foster communication etiquette. Students learn to listen to opposing views, respond respectfully, and speak in turn. Preparing for debates also involves research and fact analysis, positively affecting both written and oral communication. This process promotes habits of inquiry and independent reading.

Debate activities can take various forms, such as group-based "controversial questions," role-playing (e.g., courtroom scenarios), parliamentary-style debates, and structured discussions involving judges. These methods are both engaging and effective.

In modern education, fostering independent thinking, creativity, and the ability to approach problems from different perspectives is essential. Among interactive methods, brainstorming stands out for its accessibility and effectiveness.

Brainstorming is a method that encourages students to freely and quickly express their thoughts on a given topic or problem without restrictions. All ideas are welcomed and not criticized; instead, the quantity of ideas is encouraged. Later, the ideas are summarized, and the most viable ones are selected.

This technique promotes free and active thinking. Students are not hesitant to share ideas, which boosts their confidence and sense of inclusion. As a result, class activities become more dynamic and engaging. Additionally, brainstorming stimulates creativity and critical thinking. The proposed ideas are analyzed for strengths and weaknesses, strengthening analytical skills and teaching students to assess concepts deeply. Another key advantage is that brainstorming fosters teamwork. Students exchange ideas, listen to each other, and build upon each other's thoughts. This helps develop a culture of respectful dialogue, compromise, and active listening.

It also encourages viewing problems from multiple angles. Typically, a problem is solved not by a single approach but through a complex consideration of diverse perspectives. Thus, students learn to analyze issues comprehensively. Most importantly, brainstorming increases interest in the lesson. Every participant feels that their opinion matters, which enhances their engagement and motivation. The diversity of ideas fosters innovative and creative thinking. In the context of modern education, enhancing students' interest in learning, enabling them to communicate effectively, and act appropriately in social situations is crucial. Here, interactive methods play a significant role.

Role-playing is particularly effective in preparing students for real-life situations and fostering active participation. This method involves students enacting given scenarios based on specific topics, with the goal of achieving educational, developmental, and communicative outcomes. Through these activities, students assume various personas, try to solve problems, and learn to empathize by seeing from others' perspectives. A key strength of role-playing is that it develops communication skills. Students engage in activities such as speaking, listening, questioning, answering, and expressing opinions through their roles, thereby enhancing oral communication. Furthermore, role-playing fosters imagination and creative thinking. While portraying characters, students try to embody their emotions, thoughts, and actions, which cultivates imagination and empathy.

Role-playing increases social activity, encourages teamwork, and teaches students to defend their views and respect others' opinions. Each participant acts according to their role in the given situation, taking responsibility and boosting personal engagement.

These games expose students to real-world problems, help them explore solutions, and compare diverse viewpoints. For instance, participating in scenarios such as “court trials,” “doctor and patient,” or “family disputes” allows students to gain practical experience and learn to make sound decisions. Role-playing also enhances motivation. Unlike traditional classes, it allows students to learn through play, which brings joy and encourages active involvement.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, interactive teaching methods significantly impact not only students' academic achievements but also their personal growth, social engagement, and communication culture. These methods foster experiential learning, turning students from passive listeners into active participants. Therefore, their effective implementation is a crucial requirement of modern education. The brainstorming method, in particular, supports students' thinking, communication, and creativity. It also enhances their social engagement and ability to present reasoned arguments. Hence, regular use of this method can provide a strong stimulus for students' holistic development.

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