SOME ONLINE SERVICES TO CREATE INTERACTIVE TASKS IN TEACHING ENGLISH

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Abstract.

Today, people live in a global community where English has become the most widely spoken language worldwide. With the developing technology the process of teaching also requires teachers not stay behind the time. The internet is a present valuable resource in a technologically evolved society. It can provide new learning environments and opportunities. The article deals with the role of online services in the process of teaching English. Some effective online services are depicted and it is emphasized that using interactive tasks created by them increase the students’ motivation to learn. It is also noted that they allow students to learn at a speed that is right for them and to master English without confusion or difficulty.

Key words: English, teaching process, online services, LearningApps, Wordwall, motivation, effectiveness, interactive tasks.

НЕКОТОРЫЕ ОНЛАЙН-СЕРВИСЫ ДЛЯ СОЗДАНИЯ ИНТЕРАКТИВНЫХ ЗАДАЧ ПРИ ОБУЧЕНИИ АНГЛИЙСКОМУ ЯЗЫКУ

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Аннотация.

Сегодня люди живут в глобальном сообществе, где английский стал самым распространенным языком во всем мире. С развитием технологий процесс обучения также требует от учителей не отставать от времени. Интернет в настоящее время является ценным ресурсом в технологически развитом обществе. Это может обеспечить новую среду обучения и возможности. В статье рассматривается роль онлайн-сервисов в процессе обучения английскому языку. Описаны некоторые эффективные онлайн-сервисы и подчеркнуто, что использование созданных ими интерактивных заданий повышает мотивацию учащихся к обучению. Также отмечается, что они позволяют студентам учиться с подходящей для них скоростью и освоить английский язык без путаницы и затруднений.

Ключевые слова: английский, учебный процесс, онлайн-сервисы, LearningApps, Wordwall, мотивация, эффективность, интерактивные задания.

Language learning has always been a dynamic process, evolving with technological advances and social changes. To master a foreign language one should do a lot of practice. During the
process of learning he should obtain four different skills – Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing skills. For it a teacher should give a right direction and arise the interest of pupils by using interactive ways of teaching.

With the digital age in full swing, online services have taken in the center, ushering in a new era of convenience, accessibility and interactivity. In particular, the role of online services in teaching English has become important in breaking down geographical boundaries and democratizing language learning, making it accessible to a global audience.

Online service learning apps have emerged as powerful tools that not only facilitate academic learning but also promote community engagement and social responsibility. These innovative platforms have gained popularity for their ability to connect students with real-world issues, fostering a sense of empathy, collaboration, and a deeper understanding challenges.

What are Online Service Learning Apps?

Online service learning apps combine technology, education, and community service to create a holistic learning experience for students. These apps leverage digital platforms to connect students with various service opportunities, enabling them to apply academic knowledge in real-world contexts. Unlike traditional learning methods, online service learning apps encourage active participation, critical thinking, and problem-solving through hands-on experiences.

Online services such as distance learning platforms, webinars, educational applications and electronic textbooks have become an integral part of the educational process. These tools provide unique learning opportunities by giving students and educators flexibility and broad access to educational resources.

One of the innovative tools is Learning Apps - applications designed for the training and development of students of different age groups. “LearningApps is a completely free online service from Germany that allows you to create interactive exercises to test your knowledge.” [1]

“LearningApps is an application made to support education and training processes with interactive elements. Existing items can be given new content or new items can be created online by users, and items can be reshaped if necessary.”[2]
There are 20 different versions for creating interactive tasks using learning Apps: matching pairs, group assignment, simple order, multiple choice quiz, the millionaire game, crossword, horse race and others. Each of them is captivating and arises interest of learners. Especially my students like doing the tasks for becoming millionaires and solving crosswords.

Advantages and Disadvantages of LearningApps

Advantages:
- Free to use;
- Different and much selection of game tasks;
- You may use any exercise on your topic created by another one;
- Simple process for creating exercises.

Disadvantages:
- The decoration of the exercises is not so impressive.
- There are no statistics with the results of the exercises;

In general, we can say that, Learning Apps are an integral part of modern education, providing accessibility, personalized attention and interesting forms of learning.

The next online service which I am going to recommend is Wordwall.

“Wordwall is an online platform designed to help teachers create an array of interactive and engaging class activities for students in person or online. This platform provides various templates for teachers to select from. All an instructor needs to do is supply the content and Wordwall will automatically generate the materials for the class” [3]

“Wordwall is an online platform where teachers can create interactive activities for online or face-to-face classrooms (for printables).” [4]

Wordwall caters to the diverse needs of educators across different subjects. Whether it's mathematics, language arts, science, or foreign languages, the platform offers templates and tools that can be adapted for various disciplines. This versatility ensures that teachers from different fields can utilize Wordwall to create content that aligns with their specific teaching objectives.

There are also different versions, one thing should be pointed out that, you create some questions on one point and the point again with the same questions.
One of Wordwall's standout features is its ability to create engaging and interactive activities. Wordwall facilitates real-time feedback, allowing educators to gauge students' understanding instantly. This immediate assessment not only helps identify areas that may need further attention but also enables teachers to adapt their teaching methods on the fly. The platform's feedback mechanisms contribute to a more responsive and adaptive learning environment.

Wordwall encourages collaborative learning experiences. Educators can create activities that promote teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills. By fostering a sense of collaboration, Wordwall contributes to the development of not only academic knowledge but also crucial interpersonal skills vital for success in the 21st century.

There are some advantages of using Wordwall:
1. Visualization and interactivity

Wordwall provides learners with visualized lessons where important concepts are presented in the form of interactive pictures, puzzles and games. This visualization helps students better understand the material while developing creative and critical thinking.

2. Flexibility and adaptability
The service provides extensive opportunities for flexible adaptation of lessons to the level of knowledge of students. Teachers can create personalized activities to suit students' individual needs, resulting in more effective learning.

3. Lots of language teaching tools

Wordwall is especially effective in teaching languages. The service offers a variety of games including crosswords, gallows, card games and many others to help develop students' vocabulary and grammar skills.

4. Collaboration and feedback

The online format allows students to collaborate on assignments and exchange ideas, even from different locations. Teachers, in turn, can instantly track each student's progress and provide individual feedback.

5. Accessibility and convenience

Wordwall makes learning accessible anytime, anywhere. Students can master materials on their own devices, making the learning process more flexible and comfortable.

Why is Wordwall not suitable in some cases?

- instructor-paced feature is not allowed;
- number of free activities is limited;
- multiple-choice quiz is limited;

So, Wordwall becomes an integral companion in the educational process, making its innovative contribution to the field of learning. The combination of visualization, interactivity, flexibility and convenience makes this service a powerful tool for teaching a variety of subjects. The introduction of such technologies into educational programs helps make the learning process more fun, effective and modern.

Summing up, we can say, that online services have become a key element of the modern educational process, providing new opportunities and causing new challenges. Effectively integrating these services requires a balanced approach that takes into account the needs of students, teachers and educational institutions. When used correctly, online services promise to improve the quality of education and prepare students for the demands of modern society.

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