15. The principles of applying multimedia technology in learning of foreign languages

Olesia Starkova

National University of Food Technologies, Kyiv, Ukraine

Introduction. Communicating in multiple languages is an urgent need in a globalised world. Foreign languages are widely used in such areas as information technology, tourism, mass media, science and many more.

Material and methods. The topic of our discussion today is the use of multimedia technology to intensify the process of learning of foreign languages.

Multimedia technology includes using computers along with additional devices such as projectors and interactive whiteboards. It has lots of advantages compared with other types of information technology training, namely:

- constant improvement of content; - support of the students; - opportunity of distance learning; - access to best ways to teach through the Internet; - organizing foreign language training according to students goals and preferences; - extensive use of graphic content; - providing an effective tool for self-studying;

On the other hand, a number of disadvantages can present inconvenience to a studying process. For example, - not all education systems can provide means to implement multimedia technology, - there are not enough programmers to develop technology, - there is not enough money to implement multimedia technology in a worldwide scale.

Introducing multimedia technology requires creating special conditions. It is also necessary to integrate the Internet to the educational process.

At present, the use of multimedia technology is restricted by the lack of appropriate and tested computer programs. There are lots of programs without a required theoretical basis. Teachers underestimate the use of multimedia technology due to absence of development of a theory of the concept of multimedia technology.

Multimedia aids must be used by foreign language teachers since they give an opportunity to create such learning conditions which bring the studying environment as close to the real-life conditions of the foreign language use as possible.

There is an idea of the extended classroom is one of that allows learners to engage in material beyond the regular class period. According to many researchers and practitioners, innovations, as any meaningful introduction of new elements for qualitative changes of educational situation, help to successfully prepare future specialists for cross cultural professional communication. Dramatic development of such technologies as web-site educational portals, telecommunications and use of the Internet resources allows us to speak that they are the future of our education. Internet technologies provide wide possibilities for international and cross cultural communication. They are: e-mail, communication in blogs, Internet — conferences, and tele-bridges. There is a great interest in the electronic or interactive whiteboard (IWB). The components of an IWB are comprised of a three-way system between data projector, computer and an electronic screen. The IWB allows the individual to interact with software at the front of a class rather than from the computer.

Conclusion: The analysis showed that in pedagogical science, and especially in the practice of the domestic university teaching, there is underestimation of the possibilities of learning software, including multimedia. This is due primarily to the complexity and the insufficient development of the concept in the theory of media as a didactic tool.