

THE ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE IN TECHNICAL EDUCATION

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Abstract

This article analyzes the essence, significance, and effective methods of developing communicative competence among students of technical higher education institutions. It highlights the importance of improving students' ability to communicate professionally in foreign languages (particularly English), which plays a key role in increasing their competitiveness in the global labor market.

Keywords: Communicative competence, technical education, communication, speech activity, professional English, interactive methods.

Introduction

In the modern era of globalization and rapid technological development, specialists in technical fields are expected to demonstrate not only high levels of professional knowledge and practical skills but also strong communicative abilities. The global labor market increasingly values professionals who can effectively express ideas, share experiences, negotiate, and collaborate across linguistic and cultural boundaries. Consequently, communicative competence has become a core component of technical education, ensuring that graduates are well-prepared for real-world professional interactions.

Technical education, by its very nature, focuses on developing students' analytical thinking, problem-solving skills, and technological expertise. However, even the most technically skilled engineer or programmer may face difficulties in professional growth if unable to communicate clearly — whether in presenting technical reports, participating in team discussions, or explaining complex ideas to non-specialists. Therefore, communicative competence serves as a bridge

between theoretical knowledge and its practical implementation in professional contexts.

Furthermore, the increasing role of international cooperation, academic mobility, and joint research projects requires future engineers and technical specialists to interact effectively with colleagues from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds. For example, participation in international conferences, internships, and multinational engineering projects demands the ability to use English (as the global language of science and technology) with confidence and precision.

In Uzbekistan, and in many other countries transitioning toward a knowledge-based economy, the development of communicative competence among technical students is considered a key priority. The government's initiatives to strengthen foreign language education and integrate innovative teaching technologies aim to produce specialists who are both technically proficient and communicatively competent.

Therefore, integrating communicative competence development into technical education curricula is not an optional addition but a strategic necessity. It allows future engineers, IT specialists, and technologists to become active participants in global innovation processes, capable of presenting their ideas, defending their viewpoints, and contributing to interdisciplinary teamwork effectively.

1. The concept and structure of communicative competence.

Communicative competence refers to a person's ability to determine the purpose of communication correctly, select appropriate linguistic means, and use them effectively in various communicative contexts. It includes several interrelated components:

- Linguistic competence – knowledge of language systems and their correct usage;
- Speech competence – ability to express ideas orally and in writing;
- Sociocultural competence – adherence to cultural and ethical norms during communication;
- Strategic competence – ability to overcome communication barriers through effective strategies.

2. The importance of communicative competence in technical education.

Technical disciplines are often focused on formulas, theories, and factual information. However, in professional life, the ability to explain, defend, and present these ideas is equally vital. Therefore:

- Students should be able to present technical information clearly and logically;
- International collaboration requires strong communication skills in English;
- Team communication and interpersonal competence enhance productivity in technical environments.

3. Methods and technologies for developing communicative competence.

To effectively develop communicative competence in technical education, the following methods and technologies are recommended:

- Interactive methods: debates, role plays, project presentations, and case studies;
- ICT-based tools: online communication platforms, simulations, and professional English learning applications;
- ESP (English for Specific Purposes) courses: technical terminology, text analysis, and presentation training;
- Reflective learning: self-assessment and peer feedback to improve communication skills.

4. Findings and discussion.

Practical experience shows that lessons aimed at improving communicative competence increase students' engagement, motivation, and readiness for professional activities. As a result, learners become not only knowledgeable specialists but also communicative, team-oriented, and leadership-capable professionals.

Developing communicative competence in technical education is an integral part of modern professional training. It ensures not only language proficiency but also professional communication culture, which contributes to graduates' competitiveness in the international labor market. Therefore, every technical educator should pay special attention to communicative approaches in the teaching process.



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