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THE ENGLISH LESSON PLAN ON THE THEME «ENGLISH IS LIKE OXYGEN FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS»

This work presents a scenario of the introductory lesson to the four-year course «Profession-Oriented Foreign Language Study (English)» which comprises a set of tasks for the first-year students at the B1-B2 level at English classes. The suggested activities provide reading, speaking, listening and writing practices and encourage the students of non-linguistic specialties to discuss the issue of the importance of learning English for their future professional activity.

Key words: Profession-Oriented Foreign Language Study; English; the students of non-linguistic specialties; skills; a lingua franca; a professional.

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ПРАКТИЧНЕ ЗАНЯТТЯ З АНГЛІЙСЬКОЇ МОВИ НА ТЕМУ «АНГЛІЙСЬКА МОВА ЯК КИСЕНЬ ДЛЯ МОЛОДИХ СПЕЦІАЛІСТІВ»

У цій публікації представлено сценарій вступного практичного заняття до чотирирічного курсу «Іноземна мова (англійська) за професійним спрямуванням», який включає комплекс завдань для студентів-першокурсників рівня B1-B2. Запропоновані види завдань передбачають розвиток умінь читання, говоріння, аудіювання й письма та заохочують студентів немовних спеціальностей до обговорення важливості вивчення англійської мови для їхньої майбутньої професійної діяльності.

Ключові слова: іноземна мова за професійним спрямуванням; англійська мова; студенти немовних спеціальностей; вміння; мова міжнетічного спілкування; спеціаліст.

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ПРАКТИЧЕСКОЕ ЗАНЯТИЕ ПО АНГЛИЙСКОМУ ЯЗЫКУ НА ТЕМУ «АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК КАК КИСЛОРОД ДЛЯ МОЛОДЫХ СПЕЦИАЛИСТОВ»

В этой публикации представлен сценарий вступительного практического занятия к четырехлетнему курсу «Иностранный язык (английский) профессиональной направленности», который включает комплекс заданий для студентов-первокурсников уровня B1-B2. Предложенные виды заданий предусматривают развитие умений чтения, говорения, аудирования и письма и вовлечение студентов неязыковых специальностей в обсуждение важности изучения английского языка для их будущей профессиональной деятельности.

Ключевые слова: иностранный язык профессиональной направленности; английский язык; студенты неязыковых специальностей; умения; язык межнационального общения; специалист.

Theme: ENGLISH IS LIKE OXYGEN FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Level: B1-B2

Objectives: to develop students' listening skills through watching a video; to practice students' reading, writing and speaking skills through the tasks given; to activate the lexical materials on the topic through different types of language activity; to improve motivation of the students of non-linguistic specialties for learning English with inspiration.

Equipment to be used: a computer; a projector; a screen; a blackboard; pens

Materials to be used: video «Why is it so important to learn English?» (available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4sHX3MiPGFc&t=131s>); video «The importance of English for your career» (available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b3P7Lt-ovFI>); hand-out materials (Worksheet for each student, Lesson Plan for the teacher).

Lesson Procedure

I. Introductory Part of the Lesson

Greeting

T: *Good morning, everybody! Congratulations on becoming the students of our university! Now you start your journey on the road to graduation and professional success! Our university welcomes all fresher students for a new curriculum and a new beginning at a higher educational level! A key part of the curriculum at each speciality is a discipline «Profession-Oriented Foreign Language Study». During four years of learning Profession-Oriented English, you will equip yourselves with the kinds of abilities and skills that will enable you to succeed throughout your future professional lives.*

Warming up: a discussion

T: *Now to check what you know about the English language I will ask you some questions:*

1. Do you know how many people speak English as their first language, a second language or a foreign language?
2. What English-speaking countries do you know?
3. What is lingua franca?
4. What are the varieties of English?
5. Why do we call English «oxygen for young professionals»?

II. Main Part of the Lesson

Before watching Video 1

T: *I believe you will greatly enjoy the subject of our today's lesson. We will watch two videos on the importance of learning English. But before watching let us do some tasks to assess your knowledge of English. Let us start with some useful vocabulary and describing your English language portrait.*

Activity 1. Look at the topical words (written on the blackboard) that will be useful for doing our today's lesson tasks, read them aloud and give their appropriate Ukrainian equivalents:

Nouns: mother tongue, experience, lingua franca, influence, circumstances, reasons, decline, tool, exchange, skills, scholarship, job applicants, employer, employee, counterpart, proficiency

Adjectives: native, useful, necessary, beneficial

Adverbs: abroad

Verbs: to attend, to demand

Activity 2. Look and complete:

My English Language Portfolio

Name and Surname _____

Country _____

My mother tongue _____

Foreign languages learned at school and out of school _____

How long have I been learning English? _____

Where did I learn English out of school? _____

What English language competitions, projects, courses have I taken part in? _____

My English language experiences gained in Ukraine (at home, a language camp, meeting foreigners, other) _____

My English language and intercultural experiences gained abroad (visiting relatives or friends, a trip, a language camp, other) _____

My achievements in learning languages (a certificate, a diploma, other) _____

According to my assessment, what is my level of English? (Beginner, Elementary, Intermediate, Upper-intermediate, advanced) _____

T: *So, everyone can realize how good your English is before starting Profession-Oriented English course. It is particularly useful for students who want to improve their English language skills for their future workplace. If you are learning English with the purpose of advancing your career, you SHOULD take Profession-Oriented English course.*

Activity 3. Complete the text with the missing words from the box:

dominant, differences, mother tongue, status, varieties, lingua franca, frequently, native, influence, immigrants, forms, circumstances, interlocking reasons, a vital linguistic tool, communication (2)

The Place of English in the Modern World

English is the national language in such countries as the UK, the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. It is the **1)** of nearly five hundred million people.

600 mln use English as an official second language in people in 60 countries (India, Pakistan Japan, China and African countries). As the fastest-spreading language in the human history English is spoken by 1.75 billion people worldwide that is one in every four world citizen.

Although English is not the language with the largest number of **2)** or «first» speakers, it has become a lingua franca. Lingua franca can be defined as a language widely adopted for **3)** between two speakers whose native languages are different from each other's and where one or both speakers

are using it as a «second» language. Many people living in the European Union, for example, frequently operate in English as well as their own languages (where these are different). The economic and cultural 4) of the United States has led to increased English use in many areas of the globe. Like Latin in Europe in the Middle Ages, English seems to be one of the main languages of international 5)

There are a number of 6)for the popularity of English as 7) Many of these are historical, but they also include economic and cultural factors which have influenced and sustained the spread of the language. As a consequence of its lingua franca 8), English sometimes finds itself with conflict with more local languages, such as Welsh in Wales, or French in Canada.

English can even have negative effect on the languages it comes into contact with, downgrading them so that their use becomes restricted, and in extreme 9), bringing about their decline.

English, much like other languages, can take many 10) Depending on who speaks or writes it and where they do this, there can be great 11) in pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar. There are 12)of British English and American English, Black English, Hispanic English, East Coast English, Chinese English, etc. among many others, and the future waves of 13) will appropriate the language for their own uses and in their own ways.

It is not clear that English will remain 14) among world languages. However, there is no doubt that it is and will remain 15) for many business people, academics, tourists and citizens of the world who wish to communicate easily across nationalities for many years to come.

Answer Key			
1 mother tongue	2 native	3 communication	4 influence
5 communication	6 interlocking reasons	7 lingua franca	
8 status	9 circumstances	10 forms	11 differences
12 varieties	13 immigrants	14 dominant	
15 a vital linguistic tool			

T: Now after reading the text answer the same questions again and see if you were right about your previous answers.

Activity 4. Answer the questions on the text:

1. Do you know how many people speak English as their first language, a second language or a foreign language?
2. Where is English spoken as a national language?
3. What effect can English have on other languages?
4. What are the varieties of English?
5. How can lingua franca be defined?
6. What are the reasons of the popularity of English in the modern world?
7. What is the future of English?

Answer Key
1 Nearly 500 million people speak English as their first language. 600 million people use English as their second or a foreign language.
2 English is a mother tongue in Great Britain, the United States of America, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Besides, a lot of people speak English in Japan, India, China, Africa, etc.
3 English can have negative effect on the languages.
4 There are varieties of British English and American English, Black English, Hispanic English, East Coast English, Chinese English and many others.
5 Lingua franca can be defined as a language widely adopted for communication between two speakers whose native languages are different from each other's.
6 There are economic and cultural reasons for the popularity of English in the modern world.
7 There is no doubt that English will remain a vital linguistic tool for many business people, academics, tourists and citizens of the world for many years to come.

T: You understand that learning English is highly beneficial for non-language speakers. Think and say what spheres of life English is widely used as a means of international communication:

S1: Trade, industry, business have given the English language the status of one of the world's most important languages. You will never have any real problems with linguistic confidence for activities such as giving presentations, negotiating, participating in international conference calls, networking.

S2: English is the language of science, medicine, electronics, and space technology. 80% of scientific and technical papers are written in English although they are not necessarily published in England or English-speaking countries.

S3: English is necessary for foreign travel and useful on holidays abroad. While travelling to different countries of the world English is needed for shopping for food, travelling by metro, getting directions, ordering food in restaurants etc.

S4: English is the main language at numerous international meetings and conferences.

S5: The Olympic Games and other multinational sports events cannot do without English.

S6: English prevails in transportation and mass media. The travel and communication language of the international airwaves is English.

S7: The language of information age is English. Computers talk to each other in English. Approximately 80% of the Internet information is in English.

S8: The largest broadcasters CBS, NBC, ABC and BBC reach a potential audience through English broadcast. It is also the language of satellite TV.

S9: English is the official language of 85% of the world's international organizations such as UNESCO, NATO, UNO and so on.

S10: English is replacing the dominant European languages of centuries past. English has replaced French as the language of diplomacy.

S11: In addition, a lot of people’s favourite songs are in English.

While watching Video 1

T: Now you will watch the video «Why is it so important to learn English?» (3:43 min; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4sHX3MiPGFc&t=131s>). This video shows different young people giving reasons for the necessity of learning English. Be very attentive during the video as you have to do Activity 5 and Activity 6 on it (If it is necessary, T plays the video again, pausing and checking the answers together).

Activity 5. Tick (✓) 5 reasons for learning English mentioned in the video:

1. More job opportunities
2. Technology
3. Travelling

Answer Key
1, 3, 5, 6, 7

Activity 6. Watch again, listen and decide if these sentences are TRUE or FALSE. If they are ...FALSE, correct them:

1. Speaker 1 is from the USA.
2. Speaking English is important if you decide to move and study in another country.
3. Speaking English makes it easier to adapt to a different coacher.
4. Speaking English doesn’t open doors to job opportunities.
5. Speaking English helps us to do business abroad.
6. English is important to communicate with people from your home country.
7. You can go abroad and learn more English by talking to people from all Europe.
8. English is useful to attend university or find a work only in the United Kingdom.
9. When travelling abroad you can speak to other people or when you watch a film you can understand what someone talks about.
10. It is fun to make friendship with people from all around the world.

Answer Key
1 FALSE (Speaker 1 is from Brazil) 2 TRUE 3 TRUE
4 FALSE (Speaking English opens doors to job opportunities)
5 TRUE 6 FALSE (English is important to communicate with everyone, not just with our nation) 7 TRUE 8 FALSE (English is useful to attend university or find a work abroad)
9 TRUE 10 TRUE

Before watching Video 2

Activity 7. Analyze Tables 1 and 2 and say: What kind of employees are employers looking for?

What is a key driver for learning English by most of employees?

Table 1

Basic Skills Gaps Among Job Applicants Across Industries



Table 2

EMPLOYEES GLOBALLY SEE ENGLISH A KEY TOOL TO ADVANCE THEIR CAREER

The Global Scale of English shows the language skills needed to communicate effectively at work.



While watching Video 2

T: Now you will watch the second video «The importance of English for your career» (3:41 min; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b3P7Lt-ovFI>). This video shows how knowing English increases your chances of getting a good job in a multinational company within your home country or for finding work abroad (If it is necessary, T plays the video again and pauses it when the videoscript is displayed, and tell the students to repeat the text).

Activity 8. Watch the video and match the names of the people with their positions in the company:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. Melania Escalante | a) Materials Manager |
| 2. Ileana Rojas | b) People Manager for Information Technology |
| 3. Isaak Araya | c) Strategic Operations Director |

Answer Key
1 b 2 c 3 a

Activity 9. Watch the video again and read out the sentences. Who says the following: Melania Escalante, Ileana Rojas or Isaak Araya?

1. «Official communication in the company Intel is English – both written and verbally».
2. «My English before Intel was almost nothing».
3. «In Intel we try to be a team, not just people working alone».
4. «The only way to connect people and their knowledge is through English».

5. «It is very sad to say that young professionals coming out of the school are not able to express themselves in English».

6. «One example of investment in right people is Isaak Araya».

7. «If we have an issue with one product, immediately we set up a meeting with our counterparts in Asia and start to discuss in English that something is going wrong».

8. «It wouldn't be possible to do my job if I was not able to speak English».

9. «The official language of Intel is English and we can connect everybody independently from their culture, origin or gender in every country in the world».

10. «People all around the world have been able to talk to all of them because of English».

Answer Key
1, 4, 5, 6, 9 Ileana Rojas 2, 3 Melania Escalanter
7, 8, 10 Isaak Araya

Activity 10. Answer the questions on the video:

1. How many employees work for the company Intel?
2. How many countries does the company Intel operate in?
3. What language do the employees from different countries communicate with each other?
4. What kind of training does the company Intel invest in to build strong international teams?
5. Who had an Intel scholarship at high school to study English?
6. What does diversity of cultures bring to the company?
7. What is the motto of the company Intel?

Answer Key
1 100, 000 employees 2 63 countries 3 English 4 in English training 5 Isaak Araya 6 richness and perspectives and boost performance of people and business 7 We are one company, one voice with a clear vision

After watching Video 2

Activity 11. Match the words from the video in column A (1-10) with their synonyms in column B (a-j):

- A**
1. counterpart
 2. employee
 3. scholarship
 4. diversity
 5. job
 6. company
 7. professional
 8. skill
 9. training
 10. opportunity

- B**
- a) firm
 - b) specialist
 - c) coaching
 - d) proficiency
 - e) chance
 - f) colleague
 - g) worker
 - h) career
 - i) variety
 - j) grant

Answer Key

1 – f	6 – a
2 – g	7 – b
3 – j	8 – d
4 – i	9 – c
5 – h	10 – e

Activity 12. Try to answer the following questions giving arguments from the video:

1. Why does English matter?
2. Do you agree that there is a need for a global standard of English proficiency?
3. Why is it beneficial for global business if employees speak English?
4. Will employers continue to need employees who have high level English skills?
5. Will you need to continue learning English after the end of formal education?

III. Additional Possibilities (If there is time, T asks the students to do Tasks 13, 14)

Activity 13. Try to guess numbers for the facts about English language skills of job applicants and employees?

7	17	31	68	91
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1.% of the global businesses assess their employees' proficiency in English.
2.% of the global businesses find that job applicants lack the necessary written skills in English.
3.% of the global businesses find that job applicants lack the necessary reading skills in English.
4.% of the global businesses think it is beneficial to the company if employees speak English.
5.% of the second language speakers feel they can communicate effectively in English at work.

Answer Key
1 68 2 31 3 17

Activity 14. What will the job market look like in 5 or 10 years? Look at the jobs of the future and say which of them don't exist yet? What kind of job would you like to do when you graduate from the university? What jobs can need your professional skills and high level English skills?



III. Final Part of the Lesson

T: You have learned many interesting facts, much useful information about the English language. Now you

know that English has become the global lingua franca of international communication, primarily used by its 'non-native speakers'. Try to systemize this material and do one more task at home.

Hometask

What about you? Why is it so important to learn English for you? Write down your own reasons for learning Profession-Oriented English and be ready to speak on it.

Summarizing

T: Now you can make a conclusion about why we compare the English language with oxygen for young professionals. Suggest your own ideas.

S1: English is of substantial importance for the students of all specialties.

S2: If you know English, you will be able to make a career in your profession.

S3: Your impressive English skills can enable you to be successful in your future job.

S4: Knowing English can provide a tremendous amount of job opportunities regardless of where you live.

S5: Mega companies now expect their employees to have a high degree of English proficiency.

T: Thank you for your industrious work and attention at the lesson! And I would like to finish our lesson with the Chinese proverb: «**To learn a language is to have one more window from which to look at the world**». So, learn English, expand your horizons and have fun of it!

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