THE IMPORTANCE OF STUDENTS' INDEPENDENT WORK WHEN LEARNING ENGLISH AT TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

ВАЖЛИВІСТЬ САМОСТІЙНОЇ РОБОТИ ПРИ ВИВЧЕННІ АНГЛІЙСЬКОЇ МОВИ СТУДЕНТАМИ ТЕХНІЧНОГО ВНЗ

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In the contemporary era, English has become the dominant language utilized in scientific research and technical documentation. It is estimated that in excess of 80% of scientific literature, including articles and studies in disciplines such as engineering, mathematics, physics and IT, is published in English. It is imperative for technical specialists to possess fluency in English in order to remain abreast of the latest developments and technologies. Engineers and programmers are frequently confronted with technical documentation, design specifications, and standards that are solely accessible in English. English is also the language of international communication in professional forums and in projects with foreign partners, which makes it an indispensable component of a successful career. Students who are able to read and comprehend English-language scientific articles and patents are better equipped to apply advanced technologies and techniques to their professional tasks, thereby enhancing their competitiveness in the job market.

The capacity to work independently enables students to regulate their own pace of learning, which is of particular significance in the context of a technical university curriculum that is characterised by a high level of academic rigour. The temporal and material limitations of traditional classes (online and offline) can impede the ability to delve deeply into specific aspects of a language. For instance, independent reading of texts in English enables students to enhance their vocabulary and comprehend the structure and logic of the text, which is crucial for interpreting technical texts. The utilisation of podcasts, video lectures and online courses for the enhancement of listening comprehension enables students to cultivate the capacity to perceive spoken language in real-time, which is a prerequisite for effective collaboration with English-speaking professionals. Furthermore, the completion of practical tasks, such as essay writing and the translation of scientific articles, facilitates the development of academic writing skills and facilitates the assimilation of specialised vocabulary.

The curriculum of technical universities frequently demand that students demonstrate a high degree of self-organisation and the capacity to resolve

issues independently. This is also evident in the study of English. Students who engage in independent study develop a sense of discipline and responsibility with regard to their learning outcomes. This is exemplified by the ability to prioritise tasks, dedicating more time to intricate subjects such as technical grammar or particular terminology. Furthermore, independent work facilitates the development of the capacity for self-assessment and reflection, thereby enabling students to adapt their study plans in accordance with their progress. This is crucial for their prospective careers, in which self-organisation and time management will be pivotal skills when undertaking projects or solving intricate technical issues.

In the digital age, students have access to a variety of online resources that facilitate the acquisition of English language skills. For example, platforms such as Coursera, edX, and Prometheus provide free courses that encompass both general English and specialised technical vocabulary. Mobile applications such as Memrise and Babbel facilitate language acquisition through interactive exercises, which assist in comprehending new vocabulary and grammatical structures. Automated grammar-checking software, such as Grammarly, assists students in enhancing their writing skills by analysing errors and suggesting corrections. Additionally, there are specialised online dictionaries and databases, such as the Oxford Learner's Dictionary or Linguee, which provide detailed definitions of technical terms and examples of their usage in context. The aforementioned resources contribute to the development of both basic and specialised language skills.

One of the key aspects of successfully learning English is the proper organisation of the educational process. Several techniques can help students structure independent work. One effective method is the "spaced repetition" technique, which allows students to optimise the memorisation of new information by regularly returning to the studied material at certain intervals.

Furthermore, students may utilise the project method to create presentations or technical reports in English on subjects related to their prospective profession. Another technique is the "immersion method," which entails students engaging with the English language in a variety of everyday contexts, including watching films, reading news, and participating in online discussions on technical topics. This not only facilitates the enhancement of their linguistic abilities but also enables them to become immersed in an English-speaking professional environment, which is advantageous for their prospective careers.

Students who are actively engaged in independent work demonstrate superior outcomes not only in examinations but also in everyday professional tasks. The independent study of English facilitates the development of critical thinking, as students learn to analyse materials in English, draw conclusions, and propose solutions. Furthermore, it enhances their capacity to adapt to novel environments, whether an international internship or a position within a multinational enterprise.