

## THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE IN LEARNING ENGLISH

**Boymurodova Rayhona**

University: Sharq University, 1st year student

### Abstract

In modern language education, the primary objective is not only to teach grammatical structures and vocabulary but also to develop students' ability to communicate effectively. Communicative competence plays a crucial role in English language learning because it enables learners to use language appropriately in real-life situations. Students with well-developed communicative competence can express their ideas clearly, understand others, and participate actively in meaningful conversations. The purpose of this article is to examine the importance of communicative competence in English learning and to identify effective methods that support the development of communication skills in the classroom.

### Key words

communicative competence, English language learning, communication skills, language teaching, speaking ability.

**Introduction.** English has become one of the most widely used languages in the world. It is the language of international communication, science, education, and technology. For this reason, the ability to speak English fluently has become an essential skill for students in many countries.

However, learning a language is not limited to memorizing vocabulary or grammar rules. The main purpose of language learning is the ability to communicate with others. Many learners who study English for several years still find it difficult to express their thoughts and ideas in spoken communication.

Communicative competence refers to the ability to use language effectively and appropriately in different social contexts. It includes not only linguistic knowledge but also the ability to understand cultural norms, maintain conversations, and interpret meaning. In modern language teaching, developing communicative competence has become one of the most important goals of English education.

**Literature review.** The concept of communicative competence was first introduced by the sociolinguist Dell Hymes. He argued that knowing a language means more than understanding its grammatical system. A learner must also know how to use the language in real communication and in different social situations.

Later, researchers such as Canale and Swain expanded this concept and identified several components of communicative competence. These components include grammatical competence, sociolinguistic competence, discourse competence, and strategic competence. Each component contributes to the learner's ability to communicate effectively.

Modern researchers emphasize the importance of communicative language teaching in English classrooms. According to Jeremy Harmer, students learn languages more successfully when they participate in interactive activities that encourage real communication. Such activities provide learners with opportunities to practice speaking and improve their confidence.

**Methodology.** This study is based on the analysis of theoretical sources related to communicative competence and modern language teaching methods. Different communicative teaching strategies used in English language classrooms were examined.



Particular attention was given to activities such as group discussions, role-playing tasks, pair work, and collaborative problem-solving exercises. These methods encourage students to interact with each other and practice the target language in meaningful contexts.

The analysis also focuses on how communicative teaching methods influence students' speaking ability, confidence, and motivation in learning English.

**Results and discussion.** The analysis demonstrates that communicative activities have a positive impact on students' speaking skills and overall language development. When learners participate in discussions and interactive tasks, they gain more opportunities to practice the language and develop fluency. Role-play activities allow students to simulate real-life situations such as interviews, travel conversations, or everyday interactions.

Through these experiences, learners become more comfortable expressing their ideas in English.

Another important result is that communicative teaching methods increase students' motivation. Learners are more engaged in the learning process when they actively participate in communication rather than simply memorizing grammatical rules.

Furthermore, communicative competence helps students develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Classroom discussions and debates encourage learners to organize their thoughts and present their opinions clearly.

**Conclusion.** In conclusion, communicative competence plays a fundamental role in English language learning. It enables students to transform their linguistic knowledge into practical communication skills that can be applied in real-life situations.

Teachers should focus on communicative and interactive teaching approaches that encourage students to speak, share ideas, and collaborate with others. The development of communicative competence not only improves language proficiency but also prepares learners for effective participation in global communication.

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