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Д. А. Василевич, Ю. С. Пожарицкая
Уральский федеральный университет
им. первого Президента России Б. Н. Ельцина
г. Екатеринбург, Россия

Английский язык для академических целей

Данная статья посвящена изучению английского языка для академических целей в рамках академической мобильности студентов. Рассматривается сущность программы «Английский язык для академических целей», приводятся ее преимущества.

English for Academic Purposes

Nowadays many people around the world start learning English, this language is becoming more and more popular year after year. What is the reason for this success? For sure, the main reason is the international usage of English. People, who know English, can easily talk to foreigners, understand some foreign news or newspapers. However, this is not the only reason for learning English. Recently a tendency to learn English for Specific Purposes (ESP) has appeared. One of its branches – English for Academic Purposes has become very popular as a result of internationalization of higher education and tendency to academic mobility of students.

First of all, let's understand what EAP is exactly. According to the definition, given by A. Gillet, "EAP is a branch of ESP in that the teaching content is matched to the requirements of the learners. It is also considered to be ESP if we take Robinson's (1991, p. 2–5) features which are usually thought of as being criterial to ESP courses:

- first, ESP is goal directed – the students are not learning the English language for the sake of it, but because they need to use English;
- second, ESP courses are based on a needs analysis, which aims to specify as closely as possible exactly what it is that students have to do through the medium of English;
 - often there is a very clearly specified period for the course;
 - ESP learners tend to be adults rather than children;
 - students may need specialist language, but this is not necessarily so;
 - in some cases, a very high level of proficiency is not required, as long as the students can succeed in their aims" [1].

Furthermore, if to speak about skills that students can get during the EAP course, they include: "Language skills addressed include: listening comprehension, fluency development, oral intelligibility, reading, grammar, writing, and vocabulary development. Academic study skills addressed include: test taking and note taking skills, academic vocabulary usage, critical reading and writing, comprehending academic lectures, research and library skills, formal composition forms and development, including research papers" [2].

Many students from different countries want to study biology, medicine, chemistry, physics and other specialized subjects abroad. To be successful and to succeed in their studying they should improve their

English to understand the lecturer at the university and be able to read works of foreign authors, do researches. What is very important, English for academic purposes is focused on students' interests and is learner-centered. On the first step of learning EAP the specialists are trying to find out exactly why the students are learning English and therefore what skills they will need. Learning English for academic purposes is aimed to increase students' language level, especially in the spheres they are interested in.

What is more, the course of learning English for academic purposes helps non-native speakers and immigrant students to acculturate into their new learning environment. Generally, the EAP programs at the university level have been developed to offer academic and linguistic support to help second-language students, who come from a variety of different backgrounds, to adjust to the expectations and academic demands of English-speaking universities.

The popularity of English for academic purposes is increasing day after day. It provides wonderful abilities not only to study in prestigious foreign university for people from different countries, but also to acculturate to some exact area of studying they want to work in. Those students who passed the EAP program are actually in a privileged position with regard to their potential for academic success.

To conclude, the program of learning English for academic purposes is a great chance for many students. It gives people not only the high level of the language, but also it helps to integrate into new life and studying conditions because of the individual approach to each person. So many people around the world want to study in one of English-speaking countries' universities, and the EAP program makes this dream come true for more and more people year after year.

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