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FORMATION OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING FOREIGN LANGUAGE COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE

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Annotation: *It is considered the question of formation of foreign language communicative competence of future engineers. It is emphasized the need and importance of studying the terminological vocabulary in the process of mastering a foreign language for special purposes by students of engineering specialties at a technical university. The stages of formation of communicative competence are analyzed and the role of professionally oriented texts in this process is determined. The necessity of constantly searching for new opportunities and methods for forming and improving the communicative competence of future engineers is indicated.*

Key words: *engineer, communicative competence, lexical competence, terminological vocabulary, text, technical higher education.*

In today's conditions of growing competition on the labor market, graduates of engineering specialties of technical higher education institutions need fluency in a foreign language of their professional field. Employers want to get highly qualified specialists who, in the process of their professional activity, will be able to communicate with foreign partners, use official, technical and profile documentation. Industrial contacts, participation in scientific and practical seminars and conferences necessitate the development of communicative competence

in a foreign language, which necessitates the development of lexical competence and the study of terminological vocabulary. And this means that the study of a foreign language by future engineers should be aimed at accumulating and expanding the vocabulary and terminology dictionary.

Methodical aspects of the formation of foreign language lexical competence of higher education students were the subject of research of a large number of domestic and foreign researchers (V. Borshovetska, G. Hrynyuk, L. Petrovska, I. Sverdlova, Y. Semenchuk, V. Schmidt). Formation and improvement of lexical competence is considered by these scientists to be an important component of the process of formation of foreign language communicative competence of future specialists.

According to scientists, the formation of lexical competence and the study of terminological vocabulary by future engineers in technical higher education institutions depends on the foreign language specialized material chosen for classes. The researchers K. Kusko, S. Folomkina and others consider the texts of the professional direction to be such material. The texts are a source for expanding the professional terminological dictionary. They are the subject of reading and discussion in classes. Professionally oriented texts are the basis for listening and use in speaking situations.

K. Kusko considers the text by profession as "primarily a means of formation and development of professional, or more precisely, language-professional skill." [1, p. 13] In turn, language and professional skills are a set of skills, abilities and knowledge that allows you to study, work and communicate in a multinational space.

According to S. Folomkina, the text acts "as the main communicative unit that a person uses in everyday activities" [2, p. 77] On the basis of texts, students perceive word forms, the meaning of words, remember them and use them in acts of communication.

The selection of texts depends on the professional needs of future specialists and should be based on the material studied by students. The number of terms cannot always cover all the concepts of the field, so you should concentrate on the main concepts, methods, components,

classifications, etc. The number of terms and their selection should be consistent with the curriculum of the discipline.

According to many scientists, the formation of lexical skills takes place in the following stages: introduction of new vocabulary, consolidation and automation of lexical skills and their application in real communication.

It is advisable to accompany the introduction of new vocabulary on the basis of the text by providing a definition in a foreign language. Then non-communicative and conditional-communicative exercises should be performed in order to consolidate the material and form students' skills in using vocabulary in professionally oriented communication. These exercises are aimed at learning the form and meaning of a new lexical unit. These can be imitation exercises, substitution exercises, as well as exercises in choosing words by analogy, transformational exercises.

Communicative exercises will be effective at the stage of using vocabulary in real communication. At this stage, students willingly draw up a plan of the read text, write annotations, answer questions, convey the content and perform scientific projects on a given topic. Acquired vocabulary and communication skills can be used at student conferences, during discussions and in project work.

Such an algorithm for the formation of professionally oriented vocabulary makes it possible to form a dictionary of the discipline, which can be supplemented by students independently in accordance with their needs in scientific activity and professional communication.

During the teaching of a foreign language in the professional direction at the National Technical University named after Admiral Makarov students of engineering specialties noticed that students most successfully learn vocabulary from professional texts, which they independently choose in accordance with the topics of their scientific works and practical classes in their specialty. The development of lexical competence is also facilitated by project technologies, situational simulation, and search activity.

Students willingly work with texts and scientific and technical reference authentic literature from professional sites for engineers in

various fields (engineering.com, interestingengineering.com, engineers-australia.org.au), blogs of practicing engineering specialists (The Engineer, GrabCAD, Wonderfull Engineering, All Together, Curious Cat Science and Engineering Blog) and video blogs (The Greek Group, EEVblog, Ed Systems, Todd Harrison, Mike's Electric Stuff, TED Talks).

The development of lexical competence is also facilitated by the use of audio podcasts on engineering topics Engineering Podcasts: Engines of Our Ingenuity, The Engineering Commons Podcast, The Engineering Career Coach Podcast, The Civil Engineering Podcast. Students simultaneously listen to the material and follow the text on the screen, work with new vocabulary.

Formation and improvement of lexical competence is an important component of the process of formation of foreign language communicative competence of engineers in a technical university. Therefore, the task of a professional foreign language teacher is to choose the forms and methods of presenting and processing lexical material, forming the lexical and terminological competence of future specialists in an interesting and useful way for them.

Prospects for further research may be related to the study of means of improving the lexical competence of certain engineering specialties.

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