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## **IMPROVING LISTENING COMPREHENSIVE SKILLS AS A RECEPTIVE TYPE OF SPEECH ACTIVITY**

***Анотація.** Аудіювання - є найважчим видом мовної діяльності. Від рівня оволодіння ним значною мірою залежить не лише здатність студентів до успішного усвідомленого сприйняття іноземної мови, а й їх готовність до реалізації всіх інших видів мовленнєвої діяльності: говоріння, читання, письма. Розглянуто основні труднощі аудіювання та надано поради щодо вдосконалення цього виду діяльності.*

***Ключові слова:** аудіювання, фонетичні, лексичні, граматичні труднощі, навчання, аудіозапис.*

Listening is considered one of the main skills in learning English. Students of non-linguistic specialties sometimes have some kind of difficulties with tasks which are connected with practicing listening skills. Speaking about the difficulties arising during listening teaching, it should mention, first of all, the difficulties that arise in the foreign speech perception. Problems with foreign speech perception can be connected with phonetic, lexical and grammar difficulties [23, p. 259].

Phonetic difficulties are the most popular. In the flow of speech familiar words change their familiar sound. A common difficulty is the lack of a clear boundary between sounds in a word and between words in a sentence. Moreover, the speed of speech and intonation are also important factors, which can make it difficult to recognize familiar words in the stream of speech.

Lexical difficulties include:

1. the presence of unknown words in the recording (homophones, paronyms, idioms) the meanings of which are difficult to guess;
2. the length of sentences (if sentences are too long, it is difficult to concentrate and grasp the essence);
3. the size of the text presented for listening (if the text is too long it should be presented in parts).

Grammar difficulties can be connected with the presence in the foreign language of grammatical structures that are absent in the native language. A great difficulty is the perception of interrogative constructions variety. Understanding of spoken language can be complicated by the presence of morphological homonymous forms, inversion, the use of special constructions typical for oral speech.

The effectiveness of listening depends on the students' basic knowledge and their phonetic, lexical, grammatical, stylistic skills. To improve listening skills students can not only at the lessons, but independently. There are different ways how to improve the skills of perception of foreign language speech:

1. Videos on You-Tube. Modern young people can't imagine their life without Internet, so it can be useful too. Surfing the Internet, they can find different kinds of videos on foreign language: news, interviews, vlogs, educational films. Themes can be different according to their preferences. Moreover, some videos can have subtitles, which will facilitate the perception of information.

2. Radio. It is easy to find on-line radio on foreign language. Students can not only listen to foreign songs there, but also some news, discussions on different topics. Announcers, DJs and studio guests do not try to speak slower and more clearly, but in general they usually have fairly good diction and speak competently.

3. Dictation – is a good way to improve not only students spelling, but also listening. To write down a word, it is necessary to hear it at first. It is better to use the audio material with the script, then to check the mistakes. There is a great variety of dictation podcasts specially read by native speakers. This option is more convenient, because you do not have to constantly press pause to record what you hear, the announcer will make these pauses himself.

4. Audiobooks. For practicing listening skills it is better to use adapted books for learners. The text read by professional speakers is pleasant to listen to, their speech is clear and understandable. It is the great opportunity to listen to the book in the original.

5. Communication with foreigners. Conversation with native speaker is the most obvious way of students listening skills improvement. It is the great ability to hear live spoken speech, you can ask to repeat the word again or ask to explain the meaning of an incomprehensible word.

6. Phone applications. Every student has a mobile phone and spends a lot of time using it. So, it will be very convenient to download language application and use it in their free time. Applications can have different levels of difficulty, so they can improve not only listening skills, but grammar too.

So, listening is the basis of communication, from it begins the mastery of oral communication. It consists of the ability to differentiate the perceived sounds, integrate them into semantic complexes, keep them in memory during listening, making predictions and, based on the communication situation, understand the sound circuit.

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