

METHODS OF DEVELOPING LISTENING SKILLS FOR INTERMEDIATE  
LEARNERS

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**Abstract:** This article describes the international requirements and skills for English language learners. In addition, the article mentions 4 skills that are in international requirement, and their assessment based on the level of knowledge is reflected. In the article, useful methods that form and develop listening skills for students with knowledge level B1 (intermediate) and opinions on how to implement them in practice are noted.

**Аннотация:** В этой статье описываются международные требования и навыки для изучающих английский язык. Кроме того, в статье упоминаются 4 навыка, которые соответствуют международным требованиям, и их оценка на основе уровня знаний отражается. В статье отмечены полезные методы, которые формируют и развивают навыки слушания для студентов с уровнем знаний B1 и мнения о том, как их применять на практике.

**Keywords:** English, skill, marking system, listening skill, writing method, repeating method, pause method, paraphrase method, keywords method.

**Ключевые слова:** Английский язык, навык, система маркировки, навык аудирования, метод письма, метод повторения, метод паузы, метод перефразирования, метод ключевых слов.

Nowadays, learning English is becoming more and more popular around the world. Because, this language serves as a convenient form of communication as the mother tongue of 400 million people on earth. In addition, more than 1.5 billion people are learning this language as a second or additional foreign language.

It is known that there are several requirements for English language learners. To be more precise, those who want to become fluent in this language should develop 4 skills that are considered the main ones. These 4 skills are the same for learners all over the world and they are listening, speaking, writing and reading skills. They differ from each other, and each of them requires certain techniques from the learner.

Every student is divided into levels as soon as they start learning a language. They are rated from A1 to C2, and at these levels they have different knowledge and skills. For the B1 level learners who are covered in the article, teachers use different methods, especially when it comes to listening skills.

The skill of listening requires the learner to be attentive and not be distracted by extraneous elements. After all, as a result of the division of attention, the students miss the question in the task assigned to them, as a result, they cannot collect the necessary points. In order to prevent this, teachers first of all teach to focus on one point. There are different methods for those who are just starting to learn to listen. One of them is the **writing** method, which is very common among students. In this method, audio that is suitable for their level is given by teachers. The students write down every word they hear in the audio. For example:

- Hi, John! How are you?
- Pretty good, Rose.
- John, have you heard about “Golden gate bridge”?
- I don’t think so. Where is it located?
- It is located in San Francisco.

In this given example, the learners pronounce each word should be written without mistakes as “H-i, J-o-h-n! H-o-w a-r-e y-o-u?”. In this way, they develop 2 skills: the ability to write words without spelling mistakes and the ability to understand any word when it is spoken.

One of the second important methods is **repeating**. This method, which develops not only listening, but also speaking skills, is highly effective for students. In this method, students follow the exercise using a specially recorded audio transcript. As a result, they will have the opportunity to learn the pronunciation, spelling and alternative translation of words that are difficult for them or that they have not encountered before. Since it greatly contributes to the increase of active vocabulary in students, this method is also important in the formation of speaking skills.

The next method is **pause method**. During a listening exercise, making pauses helps to analyze this audio. That is, pausing between one long and several short sentences and paying attention to each word in the audio will form students the ability to write these words without spelling mistakes and pronounce them fluently. Moreover, some students will have the opportunity to ask the teacher the words they did not understand during the exercise or to return them during general repetition.

Another important way to develop listening skills is **paraphrasing**. Paraphrasing is the use of certain words, phrases or expressions in different places with different synonyms. English is considered one of the richest languages in the world, and several forms of the same word can be found in dictionaries. In the listening tasks, these synonyms are used very widely, which can sometimes cause minor confusion among students. For this reason, it will be useful for learners to memorize the synonyms of frequently used words and phrases in the language. Knowing more than one meaning of words not only prevents errors in listening exercises, but also helps to achieve high results in the other 3 skills. Because students can use different synonyms to express their thoughts when they complete speaking and writing tasks. In the reading exercises, the mistakes that can be made in the same way as in the listening tasks are avoided.

The next method is the **keyword method**. As the name mentions, this method teaches students to identify special words and phrases given in listening tasks. As keywords, the learner can choose names, place names, numbers, and words written in capital letters. Using this method, students learn to focus on the main thing. This method also helps students who sometimes miss the audio due to distraction. Namely, the students will be able to easily find the part of the audio being played using such keywords.

In conclusion, it can be noted that listening skills are considered important for those learning English as an additional language, and through this skill, they can freely understand people who communicate in this language and can have a conversation with them. The development of this skill depends not only on the student, but also on the methods used by the teachers while teaching. Above are some useful methods of developing listening skills, which are still giving the expected results in students.

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