ABSTRACT:
The article discusses various methods of teaching foreign languages in universities. Particular attention was paid to the following methods: the direct method, grammar-translation, audio-visual, audio-lingual and communicative.

KEYWORDS: foreign language, basic methods, teaching a foreign language

INTRODUCTION:
Currently, there are many methods for studying a foreign language in higher educational institutions. Each of the methods has certain features, some are more popular and in demand, some less. This article will discuss the basic methods for students to learn English.

Modern methods of teaching English in higher education.

In the modern world, the English language is very popular, moreover, this language is the language of international communication, it is known all over the world. Today, there are a huge number of methods for teaching English. In addition, new ones are regularly developed, so now every teacher can choose the best working methodology for himself.

At present, when teaching a foreign language in higher education institutions, classical methods are most often used. Namely:
1. The direct method.
2. Grammar-translation teaching method.
3. Audiovisual and audio-lingual methods.
4. The communicative method.

In this article, we will consider each of the above methods in more detail.

DIRECT METHOD OF TEACHING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE:
The essence of this technique is that the teacher pays more attention to the study of directly spoken language, which is used in everyday life. The developers of this method considered that the intermediary language, that is, the language in which teaching is conducted, inhibits the study of a foreign language. Thus, students are artificially introduced into the world of the language they are learning. The entire lesson is conducted in English, the teacher must also give explanations and new topics in English. Only English literature is used. When learning English through this method, the role of the teacher in the successful assimilation of knowledge by students is key. That is, his speech should be absolutely clear and correct, the pronunciation should be ideal, since the students will constantly repeat it precisely after the teacher. An ideal option for a direct teaching method would be to make a teacher a native English speaker.

GRAMMAR-TRANSLATION METHOD:
The grammar-translation method is the main one in the modern education system. This is a classic method that has been used for decades. Such its prevalence is also due to the fact that most of the teachers themselves were trained using this method. The goal of the grammar-translation method is to learn to read and translate using grammar rules. The disadvantages of this method include the fact
that insufficient attention is paid to the lexical part. Learning vocabulary comes down to mechanical memorization of words. Reading and translation is done in strict form. In addition, the texts offered for reading usually refer to complex fiction, therefore, the student only studies the literary language. Once in the language environment, it will be very difficult for him to understand others, even with a good knowledge of the literary language.

**AUDIOVISUAL AND AUDIO LINGUAL TECHNIQUES:**

The essence of both methods is to transmit the language through clear structures, memorization occurs through audio and video recordings. The audiovisual teaching method involves illustrating speech with appropriate pictures, that is, students are shown videos, feature films and documentaries in English. In this case, the trainees work simultaneously with two channels of perception - visual and auditory, as a result of which associations arise in the students’ heads, which makes it possible to better memorize the language. The purpose of the methods is to master a living, spoken language. Both methods are built on induction - training passes from the rule for example. Given all of the above, it can be noted that for university students who do not specialize in language learning, a.o-lingual and audiovisual methods are suitable only if they are used in combination with other training programs.

**COMMUNICATIVE METHOD:**

Currently, an increasing number of teachers are turning to a communicative method of learning English. The object of this method is speech itself, that is, such a technique first of all teaches to communicate. The communicative method involves a lot of student activity. The task of the teacher in this case will be to engage in the conversation all those present in the audience. For better memorization and use of the language, it is necessary to download all the channels of perception. The essence of the communicative method is to create real situations of communication. When reconstructing the dialogue, the student has the opportunity to put into practice all the knowledge gained. A very important advantage of the communicative method can be considered that it has a huge variety of exercises: role-playing games, dialogues, simulation of real communication are used here.

At first, the communicative method was rejected, but now it again occupies a leading position along with the traditional grammar-translation method. Most teachers of modern universities prefer these two methods, and often they are used in combination. The direct method is rarely used in higher education institutions, partly due to the lack of real native speakers among teachers, and partly because the level of students' preparation after school is too low. The audiovisual and audiolingual methods in their pure form are not used at all, however, many university and institute teachers conduct classes from time to time based on such methods. This allows you to diversify the general educational program and interest students.

**REFERENCES:**