Theme – «Linguodidactic basics of teaching foreign languages in the multicultural environment»

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Abstract.

Topicality. The relevance of the foreign language training in the multicultural environment is conditioned by the following facts: the typical multilingual situation in the North Caucasus, the insufficient elaboration of problems of teaching foreign languages in the multicultural environment, the necessity of methodological tools taking into account the role of Russian and national languages in teaching foreign languages.

The object of the thesis is a process of teaching English to bilingual learners in the multicultural environment.

The hypothesis of the research work is multicultural environment does not prevent from learning a third foreign language if a student is a nationally-Russian bilingual.

The theoretical significance consists in the theoretical substantiation of the specific interaction of the Russian and native languages in teaching foreign language communicative competence to bilingual students in the multicultural environment.

The practical significance of the study is to develop a set of exercises and recommendations for teaching English to high school students in the multicultural
The research and analysis of the foreign experience and national practice of teaching foreign languages in the multilingual environment revealed the following:

1. the ideas about the variety, equivalence, peaceful coexistence and development of foreign languages and cultures in the modern multicultural environment;

2. the foreign, national and Russian languages and cultures should be closely interconnected in the multicultural educational environment because it promotes the transfer of skills, and therefore, helps and supports the students during cross-cultural communication.

These points can be implemented at the foreign language lessons by using business games, which can simulate the real multicultural environment. A Business Game consists of the preparation, implementation and evaluation stages. At the preparation stage it is recommended to use a sociometric test, its results help organize a group according to the students' likes and leadership skills. Authentic materials are recommended to use in the business game because they can form a real picture of these countries as multicultural environment, where different ethnic groups interact. In our study we have worked out the possible scenarios of business games, which realize the abovementioned points.

They are called «National portrait» and «National dishes and culture of eating». During the games the students tell about their national culture and compare their native culture with the culture of the target language. The practical results of the game are the following:

- the students repeat and master the material better and faster;
- they develop tolerance towards other cultures;
- the students communicate in the real situations of cross-cultural interaction in the multicultural environment using the necessary materials both of the native country and of the target country;
- these business games assist in the development of the students' interpersonal skills, expanding their horizons and familiarize them with socio-cultural and spiritual traditions of the target language and ethnic groups living in the same multicultural environment.

According to the research, the knowledge of two languages and cultures by bilinguals promotes learning a third language.