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DEVELOPING STUDENTS' WRITING SKILLS THROUGH CRITICAL THINKING

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Annotation. This article emphasizes the importance of integrating critical thinking into writing skills instruction. Writing is not just about constructing sentences; it involves organizing ideas, clearly expressing thoughts, and building logical arguments. The article highlights effective methods such as creating mind maps, argument diagrams, and collaborative writing, which are used to enhance students' critical engagement and creativity. Classroom experiment results show that these methods significantly improve outcomes compared to traditional approaches. The importance of reflective practices, real-life applications, and a supportive learning environment is also emphasized. In conclusion, developing critical thinking in writing not only enhances academic success but also helps students effectively prepare to solve complex real-life problems.

Keywords: critical thinking, writing skills, mind map, collaborative writing, independent thinking.

РАЗВИТИЕ НАВЫКОВ ПИСЬМА У УЧАЩИХСЯ ЧЕРЕЗ КРИТИЧЕСКОЕ МЫШЛЕНИЕ

Аннотация. Эта статья подчеркивает важность интеграции критического мышления в обучение навыкам письма. Письмо — это не только составление предложений; оно включает в себя организацию идей, четкое выражение мыслей и построение логичных аргументов. В статье выделяются эффективные методы, такие как создание ментальных карт, диаграмм аргументов и совместное написание, которые используются для повышения критического вовлечения студентов и их креативности. Результаты экспериментов в классе показывают, что эти методы значительно улучшают результаты, по сравнению с традиционными подходами. Также подчеркивается важность

рефлексивных практик, приложений к реальной жизни и поддерживающей образовательной среды. В заключение, развитие критического мышления в письме не только повышает академический успех, но и помогает студентам эффективно подготовиться к решению сложных проблем в реальной жизни.

Ключевые слова: критическое мышление, навыки письма, ментальная карта, совместное написание, независимое мышление.

TANQIDIY FIKRLASH ORQALI O‘QUVCHILARNING YOZISH KO‘NIKMALARINI RIVOJLANTIRISH

Annotatsiya. Ushbu maqola tanqidiy fikrlashni yozuv ko‘nikmalarini o‘rgatishda integratsiya qilishning muhim ahamiyatini ta’kidlaydi. Yozuv faqat jummalarni tuzishdan iborat emas; u g‘oyalarni tartibga solish, fikrlarni aniq ifodalash va mantiqiy dalillarni shakllantirishni o‘z ichiga oladi. Va yanada miya xaritasi, argument diagrammasi va hamkorlikda yozish kabi samarali usullar talabalarning tanqidiy ishtiroki va ijodkorligini oshirish uchun qo‘llanilishi ta’kidlanadi. Sinfda o‘tkazilgan tajribalarning natijalari an’anaviy va innovatsion yondashuvlar orasidagi taqqoslashlarda bu metodlarning samaradorligini sezilarli darajada yaxshilashini ko‘rsatadi. Maqolada, shuningdek, reflektiv amaliyotlar, real hayotga oid ilovalar va qo‘llab-quvvatlovchi o‘quv muhitining ahamiyati ta’kidlaydi. Xulosa sifatida, yozuvda tanqidiy fikrlashni rivojlantirish nafaqat akademik muvaffaqiyatni oshiradi, balki talabalarni real hayotdagi murakkabliklarni hal qilishga samarali tayyorlashga yordam beradi.

Kalit so'zlar: tanqidiy fikrlash, yozuv ko‘nikmalari ,miya xaritasi, hamkorlikda yozish, mustaqil fikrlash

Introduction. Critical thinking plays a crucial role in developing students' writing skills as it helps them analyze, evaluate, and create meaningful content. Writing is not merely about constructing sentences; it encompasses organizing ideas, expressing thoughts clearly, and forming logical arguments. Integrating critical thinking into the writing process allows students to question assumptions, consider diverse perspectives, and construct well-structured arguments. This approach fosters creativity and intellectual growth, enabling students to articulate their thoughts effectively in academic and professional settings. Moreover, teaching writing based on critical thinking equips students with the skills to independently and thoughtfully solve real-life problems. Thus, developing writing skills through critical thinking is an essential aspect of holistic education and personal growth. As stated, "Knowledge must be the foundation of critical thinking skills" [1;126].

LITERATURE REVIEW AND METHODS. Critical thinking is an integral part of effective writing. Writing is not merely about expressing thoughts; it involves actively engaging with those thoughts and questioning them. Paul and Elder assert that by incorporating critical thinking into the writing process, students learn to structure their arguments, identify assumptions, and present more logical and convincing arguments. [2;24]

According to Ennis, reflective thinking, which is a key component of critical thinking, plays a central role in developing effective writing skills. Ennis further emphasizes that students practicing critical thinking are able to enhance their arguments, organize their writing logically, and make their compositions not only clear but also well-supported with evidence. This reflective process improves the overall quality of written work and is considered a fundamental aspect of academic success. [3;15]

Writing helps students to think more deeply about their own thoughts and those of others. It allows critical thinking to enable students to question their assumptions, reconsider their arguments, and engage with different perspectives. As a result, students are able to create more thoughtfully considered and carefully written work, as emphasized by Kuhn. [4;73]

To develop students' writing skills through critical thinking, a range of effective methods can be applied. These approaches assist students in analyzing, evaluating, and improving their writing while encouraging a deeper engagement with the content. The following key methods are outlined:

Mind Mapping and Prewriting. This encourages creative thinking and helps in organizing ideas. Activities like free writing or clustering prompt students to explore several ideas and perspectives related to the topic. This approach aids students in thinking more deeply about their topic from multiple angles.

Argument Mapping. Helps students structure their arguments and present them visually. By creating diagrams, students can map out their arguments, identifying claims, evidence, and counterarguments. This visual approach helps in logically organizing their writing and crafting well-supported arguments.

Case Studies and Real-Life Applications. Applies writing skills to real-world issues. By analyzing case studies or real-life problems, students are prompted to critically think about how to solve complex, real-life issues through writing. This encourages them to write well-supported, thoughtfully considered ideas.

Collaborative Writing. Promotes teamwork and collective critical thinking. In collaborative writing projects, students work together to plan, write, and revise texts. This group process enhances critical thinking through group discussions and collective problem-solving.

Metacognitive Strategies. Enhances self-awareness during the writing process. By analyzing their thinking and writing processes, students identify the methods that work best for them and adjust their strategies accordingly. This metacognitive approach helps them become more critical and purposeful in their writing.

Mind Mapping. Organizes ideas visually. Students use diagrams to organize their thoughts and structure their arguments. Mind mapping helps them explore relationships between ideas and creates a logical, cohesive structure in their writing.

By applying these methods, teachers can help students strengthen their writing skills through the integration of critical thinking. Each approach aids students in analyzing,

evaluating, and improving their writing, while simultaneously developing their critical thinking and communication skills.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION . In the 10-A class, the "Mind Mapping and Prewriting" method was applied with 12 students, which significantly outperformed the traditional writing methods. The success of this approach was attributed to the preparation students made at home before the lesson. They were given an essay assignment on the topic "My Hometown." At the same time, the 10-B class was given the same assignment using the traditional method. The results showed that the 10-A class achieved 30% better results than the 10-B class, further confirming the effectiveness of the applied method.

Additionally, a study was conducted among the 9th-grade students, where the "Mind Mapping" method was implemented. Using this approach, students participated more actively in class and gained a deeper understanding of the topic. The effectiveness of this method was evident in their written assignments, where results significantly improved compared to classes that used the traditional method. This study also confirmed the effectiveness of the "Mind Mapping" method.

The results indicate that methods based on critical thinking not only develop students' writing skills but also ensure deeper engagement in the writing process. These methods help students view writing as a dynamic process involving analysis, reflection, and improvement. Significant improvements observed in various aspects of writing, such as organization, argumentation, and clarity, validate the value of integrating critical thinking into writing instruction.

Furthermore, the research emphasizes the importance of creating a supportive learning environment, which encourages experimentation and collaboration. Peer assessment and collaborative writing provided students with opportunities to learn from each other, fostering a culture of mutual growth and support.

Ultimately, the findings highlight the need for teachers to adopt a multifaceted approach in teaching writing. By combining techniques such as argument mapping, critical reading, and reflective practice, teachers can equip students with the necessary skills to become effective communicators and critical thinkers. These skills are not only essential for academic success but also crucial for navigating the complexities of the modern world.

CONCLUSION. Cultivating critical thinking in students' writing skills plays a vital role in enhancing the effectiveness of English language instruction. Students can approach their writing tasks with greater depth and creativity by incorporating techniques such as brainstorming, mind mapping, and structured questioning. These strategies not only allow students to critically analyze, compare, and integrate different ideas, but they also help in strengthening their ability to produce organized, logical, and well-supported written work. Encouraging such reflective thinking boosts their independence and sharpens their problem-solving abilities. Teaching methods that emphasize critical thinking encourage students to articulate their thoughts with confidence, preparing them to navigate communication challenges

in both academic and real-world contexts. In conclusion, integrating critical thinking into writing instruction is an essential strategy for helping students not only improve their language skills but also excel academically and develop the competencies necessary for success in their professional lives. This approach ultimately promotes more independent, thoughtful, and effective communication, equipping students with the tools they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

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