

Important Characteristics to Become Autonomous Learner

Umaralieva Munajat Mashrabovna

Senior teacher of the English language and literature faculty of Ferghana State University

Yakhyoyeva Sarvinoz Khayotjon kizi

2nd year student

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Annotation: This article focuses on the importance of teaching students to independent learning which can make learners motivated to take responsibility for their learning and working with teachers. This paper also analyzes the specific features of independent learners which are vitally necessary to become an autonomous learner. In terms of students' self-education, there are a myriad of points of view on this topic. Since the topic of independent learning is a very broad topic, each idea related to this topic has its own specific evidence. In the view of the progress made in the field of education, the holders of every idea related to this topic came to this consideration that independent learning is very useful in the field of education and also for students.

Keywords: independent learning, students' outcomes, self-education, attitude, strategies, promotion.

Introduction

Gaining knowledge requires learners to transition to greater independence by taking responsibility for their own learning, becoming more self-directed and making decisions about what they will focus on and how much time they will spend on learning both inside and outside the classroom. In education, independent learning can be a profitable factor in order to be a specialist on a particular field. A number of different terms are used to describe independent learning, the most common being "self-regulated". All these different terms describe very similar themes and processes, including pupils having an understanding of their learning: being motivated to take responsibility for their learning and working with teachers to structure their learning environment (Candy, 1991. Gorman 1998. Bates and Wilson 2002, and Perry 2006). Independent learning has been one of the approaches explored by national governments and educators as a means of improving educational outcomes.

Therefore, it is a significant point of this paper, considering the benefits which derived from independent learning. Independent learning is the type of learning done in one's own time to expand knowledge upon certain subjects which have been covered in lectures and seminars or tutorials. Furthermore, students are not going to be forced to do reading or given homework, learners have to take it upon themselves with no extra tuition given.

Literature review

Initially, it can be really daunting but there is a myriad of support here. In the view of opposite ideas, the UK and International literature indicates that pupils do not become effective independent learners by themselves. Rather, pupils need to learn how to learn, indicating that effective ways to learn can and should be promoted by teachers (Gorman 1998, Paris and Paris 2001, Artelt 2003, Van Grinsven and Tillema 2006). Students can go and talk to their tutors about specific reading lists that have been given. Additionally, learners can also organize study groups in their own free time, that can discuss materials with other people and debate certain problems they have had. Because teacher instruction is vitally necessary in order to become an independent learner.

Methods

Skills required for independent learners

The internal elements of independent learning are the skills that individual learners have to acquire to progress towards independent learning. Learners are required to have a range of skills in order to be self-centered learner.

1. Confidence

Independent learners are confident in their abilities and they do not rely on anyone else to accomplish their goals. They also have a positive view of themselves which translates into greater success in the learning process.

2. Intellectual curiosity

Independent learners want to find out more. They learn from various angles and formats, not just traditional instruction. They are proactive and find ways to access additional resources on their own.

3. Self-motivation

Independent learners are motivated by setting internal goals. They are driven by their own personal achievement.

4. Self-examination

Independent learners know how to evaluate themselves; they can see their strengths and weaknesses. They strive for measurable progress.

5. Accountability

They know what they have to do and do it without anyone telling them

6. Comprehension

Independent learners have the ability to read, visualize and ultimately understand the material. No matter the topic or subject studied.

7. Persistence

Independent learners do not give up. They strive to understand a concept as much as possible on their own before asking for help.

It must be admitted that all independent learners with the above qualities are able to show themselves in every field, in every science in every possible way. these qualities help independent learners find solutions to new issues, solve problems, easily master even difficult-to-understand topics.

In addition, each reader should find an answer to the question before mastering a new science: “How can I use independent learning to master this science.” We can find an answer to this question with the help of independent learning after providing information about achievements within a particular science.

The application of independent learning in practice requires several techniques and stages from us. In order to prove above concentration, let's take a look at the subject of mathematics that we all know and find difficult.

As we all know, mathematics is a science that is much more difficult and richer in theoretical information. It is common situation that, pupils go to afternoon and morning classes for three or four lessons per week, approximately it may be three or four, however unbelievable that pupils can learn all the mathematical concepts in those three hours, it might be challenging and difficult, so students need to learn one thing in order to take their maths studies to the next level and this is INDEPENDENT LEARNING.

In the independent learning process, we can use several techniques to understand mathematical theories as well as apply it in practice. In order to understand mathematical theories and to be independent learner, here a quick tip which make learner`s study well excel in mathematics. They can use one particular method which is separating into smaller chunks as independent learners. It means many students found complicated area was logarithms. According to the meaning of above method, students should separate it into smaller chunks, one week they may study log equations, the next study session may be doing the laws of logarithms, another week they may do exponential growth and decoy. Also, with the help of great qualification which is mentioned above, namely, accountability, students can be active students who takes initiative to study independently outside of class.

With the help of the qualifications listed above, even difficult information can be learned independently by ourselves. This idea was proved by the example of the above-mentioned Science of mathematics.

Coming to the field of English, it is possible to learn the skills of the English language using basic knowledge as well as self-study. There are two aspects of language: *receptive skills and productive skills*. Knowing about receptive and productive language enables independent learners to understand the natural process of language development. They help to achieve, comprehend and consolidate information. In the process of independent learning, developing receptive skills are crucial for improving cognitive skills such as memory, problem solving, critical thinking.

Here are a few tips to enhance receptive skills:

In order to comprehend listening skill, students need to be interested in what they are listening to. Especially, independent learners should seek out opportunities to listen language. In this process, videos, music, native speakers` speeches are considered as profitable resources. Clearly, creating interest and giving attention immensely enhance the development of receptive skills.

Reading is also considered as a form of listening. Because, while reading, students can listen and visualize the text in their mind. When students are developing reading skills independently, they should know about how to improve vocabulary skill, first of all. Mnemonic method can be useful in order to boost their language acquisition. Mnemonic is a method to learn new vocabulary by creating an association that makes it easy to remember. With the help of this method, students can look for different words and their usage. Finally, it is essential to focus on reading and listening skills to enhance receptive and productive skills as well, as they are interrelated.

Conclusion

As a conclusion, we should back to the pandemic period. What made teachers think during the pandemic is the belief that students perform their tasks at the time of self-study, without the observation of teachers. Developing a sense of independence not only helps students in a traditional classroom setting to achieve a good result, but is also useful when learning independently. Students who are independent learners can be successful in the transition to distance education. In short, independent learning is a crucial skill in reaching great results, as it develops intellectual curiosity and creativity. Students should be active, not passive. Independent readers do not ask and wait for others what they need to do, they own their knowledge. It naturally develops flexibility of students with different levels of knowledge and learning styles. It also allows teachers to work with life-long intellectual students in every field of science.

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