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#### LISTENING AS A KEY ASPECT OF LEARNING RUSSIAN LANGUAGE

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Abstract. The article is dedicated to the role of listening in learning Russian, emphasizing its importance for the development of communicative skills and cultural understanding. The article also discusses the obstacles students face and methods for assessing their skills. The suggested strategies and approaches will help educators create a more engaging and effective learning practice in Russian through listening.

**Keywords:** listening, learning, communicative skills, authentic materials, culture, teaching methods, obstacles.

#### АУДИРОВАНИЕ КАК КЛЮЧЕВОЙ АСПЕКТ ИЗУЧЕНИЯ РУССКОГО ЯЗЫКА

Аннотация. Статья посвящена роли аудирования в изучении русского языка, подчеркивая его важность для развития коммуникативных навыков и культурного взаимопонимания. В статье также рассматриваются препятствия, с которыми сталкиваются студенты, и методы оценки их навыков. Предложенные стратегии и подходы помогут преподавателям создать более интересную и эффективную практику обучения русскому языку посредством аудирования.

**Ключевые слова:** аудирование, обучение, коммуникативные навыки, аутентичные материалы, культура, методы обучения, препятствия.

Listening is a key component of language learning that plays an important role in mastering the Russian language. This aspect of learning provides students with the opportunity not only to listen and comprehend information but also to develop the communication skills necessary for effective interaction.

Listening helps learners of the Russian language to:

- Develop auditory comprehension. The ability to perceive spoken language is fundamental for communication. Students learn to distinguish accents, intonations, and speech rhythms, which helps them better understand native speakers in natural settings.
- Improve pronunciation and intonation. By listening to phrases and words from native speakers, students can internalize correct pronunciation and intonation, which contributes to enhancing their own speaking skills.
- Serve as a foundation for other activities. Listening is a starting point for reading, writing, and speaking practice. It not only expands vocabulary but also helps to understand grammatical structures in context.

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There are many methods that can be used for effective listening training:

- Use of authentic materials. Listening to podcasts, radio shows, songs, and movies in Russian helps students immerse themselves in the language environment and perceive the language in its natural form.
- Working with texts. Activities based on listening to texts followed by discussion allow students not only to check their understanding but also to develop critical thinking skills.
- Active listening. Learners should be engaged in the listening process. This can be achieved through various tasks, such as filling in the gaps in a text, answering questions, or summarizing what they have heard.
- Use of technology. Websites, apps, and online courses offer a variety of audio materials, enabling students to practice listening at their convenience.

Listening also allows students to explore Russian culture and traditions. Familiarity with Russian music, films, and radio programs provides insights not only into the language but also into the culture, mentality, and lifestyle of Russian-speaking people. This creates a lively context for language learning and makes the process more engaging and meaningful. By listening to Russian folk songs or stories about traditions, students can gain a better understanding of the historical and cultural aspects of life in Russia, which further enhances their motivation to learn the language.

Listening to modern interviews and talk shows helps students stay updated on current events and expands their vocabulary on relevant topics.

Despite the obvious advantages, many students face difficulties in developing listening skills. Some of these obstacles include:

- avoid of making mistakes. Some students may be afraid of not understanding, which holds them back from active listening. To overcome this fear, teachers can create a supportive atmosphere where mistakes are viewed as a part of the learning process.

Audio recordings can be too difficult for beginner students. A solution can be the use of adapted materials, as well as gradually increasing the complexity in accordance with the students' progress. Listening requires regular practice. Educators can encourage students to listen to audiobooks or podcasts and discuss them in class. This not only fosters skill development but also increases motivation to learn. It is important for the listening material to be relevant to modern realities. Students are interested in discussing news, social issues, and cultural events happening in their region and beyond.

Listening should not be limited to just Russian speech; discussing and comparing with other languages and cultures is also beneficial, as it broadens students' horizons and deepens their understanding. Students can use social media and platforms for exchanging opinions. Websites

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like YouTube can be useful for finding videos and podcasts on relevant topics that stimulate discussions and allow students to share their thoughts in the comments.

It is important not only to develop listening skills but also to assess them properly: tests can be used that include questions requiring students to engage not only in recall but also in analytical thinking. Such tasks will allow for an evaluation of the students' understanding of the material and the quality of their responses. Regular classes and testing will help the teacher monitor students' progress, identify difficulties, and adjust the curriculum according to their needs and levels. Surveys and discussions will help understand which listening methods have been most useful and interesting for students, allowing for further improvements in the learning process.

Listening is not just a skill but a fundamental aspect of learning Russian that opens doors to understanding both the language and the culture. The integration of various listening methodologies into the educational process contributes to the comprehensive development of students, preparing them for real communicative situations. It is important to remember that regular practice and the use of authentic materials are key to success in mastering the Russian language. Thus, listening serves not only as a tool for language study but also as a means to broaden horizons and deepen knowledge about Russian culture, as well as to analyze current events and topics of interest to modern society. With the right approach, listening can become an engaging and productive aspect of learning that will allow students to feel more confident in communicating in Russian, which, in turn, will open new opportunities for them in life and careers.

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