**USING TESTS ON THE MOODLE PLATFORM WHEN STUDYING ENGLISH FOR PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION**

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In connection with the global events of recent years, namely the pandemic caused by the Covid-19 epidemic, as well as the full-scale aggression of Russia since February 2022, distance learning has become more popular and in demand in university education than ever before. At the same time, distance learning is increasingly organized using various electronic platforms. One of the most popular platforms is Moodle (Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment).

Moodle is an ideal language-hosting platform as it features a course management system with built-in tracking of student learning progress. Asynchronous communication allows students to study 24/7 according to their own schedule, which, of course, does not exclude synchronous real communication between the teacher and students.

It should be realized that effective learning based on the Moodle platform has significant differences from the traditional approach to offline learning. Both approaches have similar goals or objectives, but the teaching style must be adapted to the new online environment. The role of the teacher (instructor) is paramount in the formation of excellent relations with students. The teacher should be polite, sympathetic and up-to-date when chatting or answering e-mails [1, p. 105].

The main features of the Moodle platform include the following:

1) working there does not require special training;

2) a student can work in the system from any gadget, such as a mobile phone or tablet, with access to the Internet;

3) automated control of test results;

4) the opportunity for students to make adjustments to previously completed tasks;

5) quick feedback between teacher and student for prompt exchange of information and comments;

6) automatic reporting of work done in the form of graphs and comparative tables;

7) the system stores the portfolio of each student: information about synchronous classes attended, all work completed and points received, comments from the teacher;

8) it is possible to use different assessment options;

9) it is possible to track the activity of students, the time of their educational work on the network.

Assessment of language learners has become a fundamental aspect of online learning, as this process, if properly designed, contributes to effective language learning and understanding of identity among students and teachers [2, p.231-232]. The testing process on the Moodle platform deserves special attention, since the tools of this platform provide the teacher with broad opportunities. First of all, it is worth mentioning the online testing option, with which you can monitor the process of students’ mastering program material and the formation of various types of communicative activities. Online tests can be used for both current and final control using the function of limiting the number of attempts and time for completing the test. In this case, tests can be placed both after each practical lesson and at the end of the content module. Testing can cover all types of speech activity, including listening, since the Moodle platform can easily accommodate audio and video materials (educational films, radio podcasts, video reports, presentations, etc.) and tasks for them.

When comparing testing on the Moodle platform with traditional methods of control, experts note the following advantages of the electronic form of testing:

1) the use of combined tasks (testing grammatical and lexical material, writing, reading, listening skills), and this provides a comprehensive check of the student’s level of learning and the level of effectiveness of his/her learning.

2) students have the opportunity to complete tests at a convenient time in a convenient place, immediately receiving information about the success of completed tasks.

3) control is carried out not only directly by the teacher, but also automatically using the tools of the Moodle platform, which significantly reduces the level of subjectivity of assessment.

4) the system stores online reporting on all completed tests, which allows teachers to track and analyze grades and educational achievements of students, as well as make appropriate adjustments to the course. Students have the opportunity to observe their own successes, analyze them and plan the further course of their studies.

It should also be mentioned that testing on the Moodle platform shows excellent results – both in full-time and distance learning, it activates independent work of students, increases motivation to learn English, stimulates the development of critical thinking and creativity.

**References**

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2. Rizky Eka Prasetya (2021). The Design of Moodle-Based English Language Learning Environments (Case Study of Indonesian Higher Education). ELT Worldwide (Journal of English Language Teaching), 8(2), 222-239.