

НАПРЯМ 3. ФІЛОЛОГІЯ

PANDEMIC EDUCATION

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Since 2019 all people on the planet have been learning to live and work in new realities. Humanity had to face a terrible monster called the Coronavirus. An outbreak of the virus was first recorded in the Chinese city of Wuhan in December 2019 of the year. The World Health Organization has declared this outbreak a public health emergency of international concern and designated it a pandemic on March 11, 2020 [1, Wikipedia]. The pandemic has collapsed and crippled the health care system and shattered the educational system around the world. Teachers and students were forced to leave their usual classrooms and go to the so-called online zone. According to UNESCO, 99 percents of students worldwide are experiencing a disruption due to the pandemic.

Such slogans as «Go Digital» and «Be Digital» appeared, the first of which was addressed to students, and the second to university professors.

The term «distance learning» itself appeared in 1836 at the University of London, where students could send their written work by mail. Distance education has developed thanks to new technologies, for example, when radio appeared, it became possible to create radio courses, which were first introduced into the educational process at the University of Pennsylvania [2, c. 6].

Probably, the debate about the advantages and disadvantages of online education began long before the pandemic, but now they have become especially relevant. The transition to a new style of work proved to be quite difficult for almost all teachers. What cannot be said about students, the world of digital technologies is a world they are used to, because they «live» in it. Everyone knows such popular social networks as Facebook, Instagram, various blogs and much more. Therefore, students easily switched to a new form of teaching. For the teachers, the most difficult thing seemed the inability to control the entire audience and motivate the student to find many advantages in distance learning.

Many Western researchers believe that the use of the Internet as a teaching tool makes the learning process more interesting, primarily for those who are studying a foreign language. For example, Nadiran Tanyeli draws attention to

the fact that higher education institutions are increasingly involved in the development of online language programs [3, c. 565].

Chartrand R. notes that modern technologies open up unlimited access to educational materials for everyone. This circumstance greatly facilitates the educational process and makes it accessible to a wide range of people [4, c. 2].

Let's still talk about the benefits of distance learning:

1) Many students are shy and do not like to work in a group. And this type of training allows such students to show themselves. Which, in turn, enables the teacher to get to know his students better;

2) Teachers have the opportunity to master new technologies, various interactive platforms for distance work, and also learn to motivate students at a distance.

3) During the lesson, you can use all the opportunities that the Internet provides, for example, quizzes, games, interactive tasks, movies, songs and more;

4) Teachers can be located in any city or country, they do not have to spend time getting to work and, most importantly, they can devote more time to the work itself;

5) All virtual libraries of the world have become available, which allows you to use the most modern textbooks and a variety of teaching materials;

6) Learning remotely, students spend 40-60 percent less time, according to statistics. And they can work at their own pace, what is not less important;

7) With distance learning, students have to pay more attention to independent work. This way they absorb the material better;

Among the disadvantages of online learning are the following:

1) First of all, it is quite difficult for teachers who are accustomed to the traditional form of conducting a lesson to understand and get used to a new one. The pandemic has disrupted daily life.

2) Secondly, with the remote form, it seems impossible to control each student.

3) Whatever the modern technologies, the effectiveness of teaching depends on the talent of the teacher and on his ability to motivate students;

4) Many students who pay for tuition were dissatisfied with the new form of education. In their opinion, the quality of education has deteriorated. For example, British students have signed a petition to cut tuition fees [5, c. 3].

5) And finally, teachers and students are forced to be in front of the computer all the time, which leads to visual impairment. Doctors believe that this worsens the mental and physical condition of both students and teachers, because they are deprived of live communication with their colleagues and peers, which can even lead to depression.

6) It is difficult to carry out modular controls, credits and take exams.

7) And in our country, there may also be such a problem as poor internet or lack of it, which can also affect the motivation of students.

Therefore, as they say, there would be no happiness, but misfortune helped. Because the pandemic helped to see all the weaknesses of our educational system and launched global processes in our educational system. But the most important thing is that she showed the teachers' readiness to work in extreme conditions, their dedication to their work.

Teachers have accomplished the impossible by making a huge leap forward in online learning. Thus, distance learning helped to prioritize, personalize learning, involve various forms and resources, and, most importantly, taught us how to learn with the help of those resources that the digital, technological world presents to us [6, c. 10].

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