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PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF TEACHING ENGLISH TO STUDENTS OF ECONOMIC SCIENCES

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Annotation: Recognizing the international dimension of economics, this article focuses on language skills for a globalized workplace. It addresses cross-cultural communication, business etiquette, and the language demands of international economic collaborations. The article is an asset for instructors preparing students for careers in a diverse and interconnected world.

Key words: real-world applications, language proficiency, interdisciplinary approach, communicative strategies, global perspectives, technology integration, cultural awareness.

In an era marked by unprecedented global connectivity, the mastery of the English language has emerged as a critical skill transcending borders and disciplines. Within the realm of academia and professional pursuits, this linguistic proficiency holds particular significance for students specializing in the field of economics. As the engines of global trade and finance continue to hum with cross-cultural collaboration, the ability to communicate effectively in English has become a cornerstone for success in the dynamic landscape of the global economy. The connection between economics and the English language is not merely coincidental; rather, it is a strategic imperative. Economists and professionals in the economic domain are tasked with deciphering, analyzing, and disseminating intricate concepts that traverse international boundaries. From negotiating trade agreements to presenting fiscal policies, the language of economics often unfolds on a stage where English is the principal script. This article delves into the multifaceted advantages of teaching English tailored for students in the economy field. Beyond being a linguistic pursuit, this endeavor is a strategic investment in equipping future economists and financial experts with the tools needed to navigate a complex and interconnected world. By exploring the symbiotic relationship between English proficiency and economic literacy, we unravel the manifold benefits that accrue to students, educators, and the economic landscape at large.

Teaching English to economics students requires a nuanced and strategic approach that recognizes the unique challenges and demands of both fields. The goal is to not only enhance language proficiency but also to foster a deep understanding of economic concepts and prepare students for successful academic and professional endeavors. Here is a more comprehensive exploration of various aspects involved in preparing economics students for success in English:

- 1. Understanding the Interplay of Language and Economics:
- Language as a Tool for Economic Expression: Acknowledge that language is not merely a medium of communication but a tool for expressing complex economic ideas. This recognition is fundamental to designing effective language instruction for economics students.
- 2. Tailoring Language Instruction to Economic Discourse:
- Specialized Vocabulary and Terminology: Recognize the importance of introducing and reinforcing specialized economic vocabulary. Economics students must be comfortable using precise terms to articulate economic theories, principles, and phenomena accurately.
- Discourse Analysis: Integrate discourse analysis into language instruction, focusing on the unique language patterns and structures commonly found in economic texts. This analytical approach helps students decode and generate economic discourse effectively.
- 3. Integration of Economic Content into Language Lessons:
- Theme-Based Instruction: Organize language lessons around economic themes, ensuring that students not only learn language skills but also gain a deeper understanding of economic concepts. For example, a lesson on macroeconomics could include language activities related to GDP, inflation, and fiscal policy.
- Authentic Materials: Incorporate authentic economic materials such as articles, reports, and research papers into language lessons. This exposes students to real-world economic language and enhances their ability to comprehend and use such language in various contexts.
- 4. Developing Academic Writing Skills in Economics:
- Research Paper Writing: Guide students through the process of writing research papers on economic topics. Emphasize the importance of proper citation, data analysis, and the synthesis of economic literature.
- Critical Thinking and Argumentation: Encourage students to develop critical thinking skills and construct well-reasoned arguments. This is crucial for academic writing in economics, where logical and evidence-based reasoning is highly valued.
- 5. Enhancing Reading Skills for Economic Texts:
- Reading Comprehension Strategies: Teach specific reading comprehension strategies tailored to economic texts, such as identifying key concepts, understanding data and graphs, and recognizing the implications of economic decisions.
- Text Annotation: Encourage students to annotate economic texts, highlighting key points and noting questions or areas that require further clarification. This practice enhances active engagement with complex economic materials.
- 6. Real-World Applications and Practical Skills:
- Internships and Industry Exposure: Facilitate opportunities for internships or industry exposure to connect theoretical knowledge with practical applications. This not only enhances language skills but also provides valuable insights into the professional world of economics.

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- Communication in Professional Settings: Include instruction on professional communication skills specific to the field of economics, such as writing policy briefs, preparing economic reports, and delivering presentations to diverse audiences.

7. Technology Integration:

- Digital Tools for Language Learning: Leverage technology and digital tools to enhance language learning. This could include interactive online resources, language apps, and virtual collaboration platforms that simulate real-world economic communication scenarios.

8. Assessment and Feedback:

- Rubrics for Economic Language Proficiency: Develop clear assessment rubrics that consider both language proficiency and the accurate use of economic concepts. Provide constructive feedback that guides students in improving both language and economic content in their assignments.

9. Cultural and Global Perspectives:

- Global Economic Perspectives: Integrate discussions and assignments that explore economic issues from a global perspective. This helps students understand the interconnectedness of economies and fosters cultural awareness, preparing them for international collaborations in their future careers.

10. Professional Development for Educators:

- Cross-Disciplinary Training: Provide professional development opportunities for language instructors to deepen their understanding of economic concepts. This cross-disciplinary training ensures that educators can effectively bridge the gap between language and economics.

In summary, preparing economics students for success in English involves a comprehensive and interdisciplinary approach that goes beyond traditional language instruction. By integrating economic content, emphasizing academic writing and reading skills, and promoting real-world applications, educators can equip students with the language proficiency and economic knowledge necessary for success in both academic and professional contexts. This holistic approach not only addresses the immediate language needs of students but also prepares them for the challenges and opportunities they will encounter in the dynamic field of economics.

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