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EDUCATIONAL SOCIAL NETWORK FOR ENGLISH

According to the statistics of the company "We are Social" and "Hootsuite", in 2019 an ordinary person spends about 6 hours and 42 minutes online every day. This means that the average user spends more than a hundred days online a year. And now imagine that at least 10 part of this time on the Internet people spend on learning a foreign language.

Fortunately, in modern world there are a huge number of opportunities to learn foreign languages using social networks. Thanks to modern technology, everyone can take a break with the benefit of, for example, taking a small lesson in French or German or watching a video about modern American slang.

It is important to note that learning foreign languages through social networks has a number of important advantages:

1.The first is - accessibility. Knowledge is always at hand, in our phones or laptops. We can learn the language at any free moment, for example during the lunch break, as it is mentioned earlier.

2.The second advantage is a wide range of choices. All people perceive and remember information differently. Some people hear something new, better, and some people need to see an illustration of the material for better memorization. The modern variety of resources allows us to choose what will suit a particular person.

3.The third advantage is free communication with native speakers. Nothing helps in learning like practice. Thanks to social networks, we can communicate and practice language with a person from the other side of the world.

4.And the fourth, one of the main, advantages is that it is all absolutely free. Now people are not forced to hire tutors for money to explain difficult moments in learning language. Now it is enough to ask questions in the comments and in a few minutes someone will exactly answer and explain everything. In addition, the social networks themselves are absolutely free and accessible to everyone.

As it is mentioned earlier, there are a wide variety of foreign language learning resources. These are some applications focused on self-study and social networks that allow you to interact with other people.

The most popular social networks only for the development of foreign language skills are:

Duolingo. This social network provides access to short lessons, lessons to repeat the material, speaking exercises, grammar and audio tasks. All users of this resource are constantly competing with each other. The more successfully a person completes the task, the more points he/she will receive. The obtained points are taken into account in the ranking of weekly competitions between users.

Mondly. This social network is very similar to the previous one. Here all users automatically take part in competitions gaining points for the learned lessons. This social network offers to learn 33 languages.

HiNative. This is a social network similar to a messenger. The main purpose is to communicate with native speakers. The «question / answer» function is also available here if a person cannot understand, for example, a grammar rule he/she can ask a native speaker about it.

The channels are important for learning languages on global social networks such as: Telegram, YouTube, TikTok, Instagram and others.

We offer an overview of the most famous resources for learning English. But the choice is yours.

Grammar.net. Many English language learning sites, like grammar textbooks, consist of boring dry texts that usually make you want to sleep. Grammar.net is not like that: there are a lot of pictures. English lessons for different levels of experience (even homework is provided), you can learn new words and idioms with simple and colorful images.

Busuu. The best sites for learning English are those that involve live communication. The Busuu social network has about 50 million registered users from around the world. You will be able to learn new material and grammar, send practical exercises for testing to native speakers, as well as control your knowledge through tests and word games.

British Council. English learning sites are so common that even the British Council has one. There is a huge amount of text materials, exercises, videos, audio files, games, professional podcasts and even a special section for self-preparation for the IELTS language exam. Football fans will enjoy the PremierSkills section, where they will be able to watch interviews with Premier League players, read articles about football clubs and reports from past games.

BBC Learning English. It is not uncommon to find English language learning sites that perform several tasks at the same time. The resource of the British corporation BBC is valuable. It also performs cognitive and entertainment functions. There are audio and video tutorials, tests, animated videos and just colorful materials, such as "Why chewing gum is banned in Singapore."

Situational English. The site offers to learn English through situations. The site contains about 150 articles, which, depending on the context, offer ready-made statements and reactions.

Learn American English online. All material is divided into levels and highlighted in a certain color for convenience. And teacher Paul explains the grammar in video format.

My spelling. That is an useful site for those who want to improve their English spelling. The user is asked to listen to the word, then write it.

English Grammar Test. This program is designed for those who study the level of intermediate (middle) and upper-intermediate (above average). As the name implies, the application contains grammar tests. The application contains two levels, and each level contains thirty tests. Each test consists of 20 exercises. This means that in total the application contains 1200 exercises for English language practice.

New applications for mobile devices appear every day, including for learning English. It is really advantageous to have always an interactive textbook or an exciting educational game at hand: at any free moment you can launch the application and practice a new vocabulary again, listen to the recording, read the rules or texts. Compact mobile devices allow modern people to study at home and in the office, in transport and while walking.

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