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## **CRITICAL THINKING IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE LESSONS IN PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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## **КРИТИЧЕСКОЕ МЫШЛЕНИЕ НА УРОКАХ ИНОСТРАННОГО ЯЗЫКА В НАЧАЛЬНЫХ КЛАССАХ**

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### **Abstract**

This article explores the role of critical thinking in foreign language lessons in primary school. It examines modern pedagogical approaches that promote analytical and reasoning skills in young learners. The article also highlights the importance of developing critical thinking for successful language acquisition and communication. Furthermore, it discusses strategies for integrating critical thinking into lesson plans and classroom activities. By fostering students' ability to analyze, evaluate, and create, educators can enhance language proficiency and independent thinking. The study also emphasizes the role of interactive tasks, discussions, and problem-solving exercises in promoting cognitive development. Finally, the article provides recommendations for teachers on how to effectively implement these strategies in their curriculum.

### **Аннотация**

В данной статье рассматривается роль критического мышления на уроках иностранного языка в начальной школе. Анализируются современные педагогические подходы, способствующие развитию аналитических и рассуждающих способностей у младших школьников. Также подчеркивается важность критического мышления для успешного овладения языком и коммуникации. В статье обсуждаются стратегии интеграции критического мышления в учебные планы и занятия. Развитие у учащихся навыков анализа, оценки и творчества способствует их языковому прогрессу и



самостоятельному мышлению. Исследование также подчеркивает значимость интерактивных заданий, дискуссий и упражнений по решению проблем для когнитивного развития. В завершение приводятся рекомендации для преподавателей по эффективному внедрению данных стратегий в учебный процесс.

**Keywords:** Critical thinking, foreign language, primary school, education, teaching methods, problem-solving, language acquisition.

**Ключевые слова:** Критическое мышление, иностранный язык, начальная школа, образование, методы обучения, решение проблем, овладение языком.

### Introduction

In today's educational landscape, the integration of critical thinking skills into foreign language teaching is gaining increasing attention. Primary school students benefit from learning not only vocabulary and grammar but also developing reasoning, problem-solving, and analytical skills. This article discusses the necessity of fostering critical thinking in foreign language lessons and presents effective teaching strategies to enhance students' cognitive abilities.

### The Importance of Critical Thinking in Foreign Language Learning

Language learning involves more than memorization; it requires comprehension, interpretation, and the ability to engage in meaningful communication. Critical thinking helps students:

- ✧ Understand language structures and context.
- ✧ Evaluate the meaning behind texts and conversations.
- ✧ Formulate and express ideas effectively.
- ✧ Develop reasoning skills necessary for problem-solving in communication.

### Methods for Developing Critical Thinking in Foreign Language Lessons

1. **Inquiry-Based Learning** – Encouraging students to ask and answer thought-provoking questions about language and cultural context.



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2. **Debates and Discussions** – Stimulating conversation on various topics to improve argumentation and reasoning skills.
3. **Problem-Solving Activities** – Using puzzles, role-playing, and real-life scenarios to develop linguistic and critical thinking abilities.
4. **Comparative Analysis** – Examining similarities and differences between languages and cultures to enhance understanding.
5. **Creative Writing and Reflection** – Encouraging students to express thoughts through stories, essays, and journal entries.

### Conclusion

Developing critical thinking skills in primary school students within foreign language lessons fosters not only linguistic competence but also broader cognitive and problem-solving abilities. Teachers play a crucial role in designing lessons that promote deeper engagement with the language, ensuring that students acquire essential analytical skills for future academic and personal growth.

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