



ONLINE EVALUATING THE LANGUAGE LEARNERS ON THE PLATFORMS OF THE SOCIAL NETWORKING SERVICES AND DELIVERY PEOPLE

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Annotation. *In this article modern ways of evaluating language learners at higher educational institutions are outlined with the theoretical basis. Especially, the methods of evaluating first-year students of higher education online on the platforms of the SNSs and messengers consolidating the continuous education through innovative means in practice are analysed in detail based on the requirements of the time.*

Key words: *online assessment, online learning, teaching foreign languages, social network, messenger, virtual environment, MALL, CALL.*

Assessment is a form of motivation which makes a person continue learning something new. That is why, evaluating a pupil or student in educational process involves a number of tasks which should be done by a teacher. Assessment is done based on a number of key factors of the participant who may be pupils or students. The forms of evaluating learners may be different in for each subject following the principles of this or that subject, but the concept of evaluating remains the same all the time because everything the learners acquire is assessed by the teacher generally. Taking this point into account, the ways of evaluating language learners in teaching foreign languages methodology (TFLM) are specific and different in practice. Besides that, because of the modern information and communication technologies (ICT), there have appeared a lot of new means which can be used as the means of teaching and learning foreign languages. In addition to that availability, these



means can be used as the virtual environment in which language learners can be evaluated with the help of computers or mobile devices improving the efficiency of teaching and learning foreign languages.

As examples of modern ICT, social networks and messengers can be cited which we have chosen as the basic tools of our research. Before illustrating the most important factors of the online assessment, we can mention the two most necessary terms of the online assessment in the following:

- **Computer-assisted language learning (CALL)** - in which computer programs are used as basic means to learn foreign languages.
- **Mobile-assisted language learning (MALL)** - is language learning that is activated with various mobile applications in practice.

The above-mentioned methods in our research are the main ones to apply the innovative methods into the process. Online assessment process can be organized on the platforms of the social networks and messengers. For this reason, this can be implemented on Google Plus SNS (social networking service) and Telegram messenger whose functions can be fully utilized in testing language learners' skills in the target language. The tasks to assess learners will be prepared and uploaded onto the platforms of the above-mentioned means by the teacher.

While evaluating students on various tasks in the target language, we may also have three basic categories of assessment in the process[3]:

Placement assessment - in this type, the means and tools in teaching and learning the target language are checked to make sure whether they are fully ready to start the assessment process. In addition to that, the instructions and materials are explained to the learners in detail by the teacher as a controller or



instructor so as to avoid possible misunderstandings. Because on the platforms of the SNS and messenger, there can be new functions for the learners.

- **Formative assessment** - through this category the learners' understanding on the instructions are checked with various tasks. For example, the teacher may provide them with feedback on their responds and exercises. Besides that, the learners can be provided with varied forms of feedback on the platforms of the SNS and messenger increasing their interest and potential in practice.
- **Summative assessment** - this category is the final assessing process resulting in revealing the strong and weak points of the learners. Also, this category assists us to work with the learners on their weak sides more focusing on their correct and incorrect answers.

Mentioning the basic categories of assessment, we must also list the factors of the effective online assessment according to the objectives of our research, such as:

1. *The teacher*- this is the most important doer of the process because the instructions and tasks are prepared by him or her, in fact. That is why, the teacher will also be fully aware of the functions of the SNS and messenger to test learners' language skills correctly.
2. *The virtual platforms* — the platforms of the SNS and messenger are organized by the teacher, and each function should be applied focusing on the levels of language learners and their interests in order involve them to follow the instructions correctly.
3. *The tasks* - of course, it is crucially important to be able to choose appropriate sources to prepare tasks for learners, and for this reason, while uploading the tasks on the platforms of the SNS and messenger, the teacher



must pay attention to the purposes of each task and benefits of them for the learners.

The assessing methods - assessing language learners is a very complicated and responsible part of the whole process because we aim to enable the learners to figure out what they know and they are capable of in the target language. So as to have a successful research, the teacher must be careful while providing the learners with assessments in the virtual environment. It is true that in the process the learners are assessed by the devices to some extent, but they are also assessed by the teacher on the platform of the messenger, such as Telegram. So, assessing them must be done not to distract them from learning foreign languages, but to make them work on themselves more and more in order to reach advanced levels in their target languages.

In addition to the main factors of the online assessment, the functions of the SNS and messenger in the real process can be enumerated in the following:

- **Google Forms** - is one of the latest new functions of Google Plus which can be considered as one of the most effective and convenient means which can be used as an assessing tool in teaching and learning foreign languages. Hence, it has the following chances in practice.
- **Special designs** - this function enables the teacher to design various tasks differently according to topics of each lesson.
- **Various tasks** - this function simplifies the assessing process for the teacher because all the tasks are uploaded by him or her and receives responds from each student in the virtual environment.
- **Self-assessment** - this function involves both the teacher and learners to work on themselves continuously in order to improve their competences and skills very successfully.



- **Moodle** - is a learning platform designed to provide educators, administrators and learners with a **single robust, secure and integrated system** to create personalised learning environments.
- **Telegram** - this messenger is one of the most common means of social life nowadays, and as a consequence of this, the assessment methods in innovative ways can be implemented via it as well in line with the following functions:
 - **Various tasks** - the teacher can upload different forms of tasks onto the platform of the messenger using its different functions.
 - **Online assessing** - the students can be provided with their feedbacks and progress results individually in the virtual environment. Furthermore, we have aimed to focus on the learners' both strong and weak sides to improve them the same in order to reach a proficiency level in the right and reliable way.

More generally, these basic findings are consistent with research showing that online assessment enables us to be able to achieve exact results making us to focus on strong and weak points of our learners and our teaching methods, indeed.

As the result of this, we must follow the principles of being able to assess learners correctly enabling them to demonstrate their real language abilities in practice, and in this way, innovative means and technologies assist us. In addition to that we must remember one thing that *only a state that relies on a new thought, a new idea, an innovation is winning in this rapidly developing world* [2].



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