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EDUCATIONAL SUMMARY AS A TOOL FOR DEVELOPING CRITICAL READING SKILLS WHEN LEARNING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Onufriyuk A., student, Kontsevoy M., Senior Lecturer

*Brest State University named after A.S. Pushkin,
Brest, Republic of Belarus*

Reading is a significant and complicated type of language skill to be acquired in the process of a foreign language learning. The development of critical reading skills in the target language is of particular importance. In the process of critical reading, information is evaluated, new data is compared with the already available knowledge, findings are made and conclusions are drawn. Critical reading teaching requires active involvement in the reading process; reliance on one's own experience; reflection and creation of the meanings of the text. Information technology imposes new requirements on the strategies for the critical reading skills formation in foreign language teaching and provides new tools. Summary is proposed to be used as a new tool for the development of critical reading skills in a foreign language. Skimming and the exploratory reading of summaries are currently claiming total domination. Summaries became a mass market product of information technology under chronic time pressure. Many popular network services offer the reader summaries in different languages (Blinkist, GetAbstract, Instaread, BookNotes, The12min, Sumizelt, Shortform. Smart Reading. Make Right). Summary can and should become a tool for thoughtful, close reading. This goal can be achieved by shifting from the practice of reading summaries, to the active involvement in summary creation based on critical reading. Working on summary develops the ability to analyse the text, rewrite it in an informative writing style, highlight the key information from what was read, record and summarize facts, give characteristics and draw conclusions. All of this presupposes careful, hard work on vocabulary development and grammar skills. If a summary is created in a study group, then such speech skills as participation in a conversation, presentation of facts, finding and requesting information are formed. We used Briefly (<https://briefly.ru/>) - an online wiki platform for creating summaries to examine the interrelationship of critical reading and summary creation processes. On this platform any authorized user can be involved in the creation of a summary, correction of wiki pages made by other users, making additions to the content of pages, removing content if it does not meet the wiki service requirements. A summary posted on Briefly is estimated on the basis of linguistic (grammatical, lexical, stylistic) correctness, the contents and the structure of the retelling. As a result, a correct, structured and informative material is created. To work on our summary, we took the following steps:

1. We did our research on the author's biography.
2. Read the work for the first time (using a scanning reading technique to understand the author's main idea).
3. Re-read the work (in order to highlight significant information and important events forming the basis of the work, linguistic means, literary allusions)

4. Made a condensed version of the work (material was presented in a logical sequence, using simple sentences; imagery was conveyed with the help of quotations from the literary work).

The learning task of creating a summary based on modern software-hardware platforms motivates students to do the critical reading and allows them to enrich their language practice.