

**TEACHING ENGLISH THROUGH INTEGRATED SKILLS****Ochilova Nozima Akbarovna**

Asia International University

Bachelor student.

Bukhara, Uzbekistan.

**Email:** [hamroyevasanobar1@gmail.com](mailto:hamroyevasanobar1@gmail.com)**<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.20326597>**

**Abstract.** *This article discusses the importance of teaching English through integrated skills. In modern language education, reading, writing, listening, and speaking should not be taught separately, because real communication requires the combination of several language skills at the same time. The integrated skills approach helps learners use English more naturally and effectively in academic, social, and professional contexts. The article explains the benefits of integrated skills teaching, its role in developing communicative competence, and practical ways of applying this approach in English lessons.*

**Keywords:** *integrated skills, English language teaching, communicative competence, reading, writing, speaking, listening, language learning.*

**Introduction**

English language teaching has changed significantly in recent years. Traditional methods mainly focused on grammar rules, translation, and separate language skills. However, modern approaches emphasize communication, interaction, and practical language use. In real life, people rarely use only one language skill. For example, a student may read a text, discuss its content, listen to others' opinions, and then write a short summary.

Therefore, teaching English through integrated skills is one of the most effective ways to prepare learners for real communication. The integrated skills approach means teaching reading, writing, listening, and speaking together in one lesson or learning process. This approach helps students understand language as a complete system rather than as separate elements. It also encourages active participation, critical thinking, and meaningful communication.

**Methodology and Practical Value**

Teaching English through integrated skills is important because it reflects natural language use. In everyday communication, skills are connected with each other. When learners listen to a conversation, they may respond orally. When they read an article, they may write notes or speak about the main idea. Thus, integrated skills help learners use English in realistic situations. One of the main advantages of this approach is the development of communicative competence. Communicative competence means the ability to use language appropriately and effectively in different contexts. When students work with integrated tasks, they learn not only vocabulary and grammar, but also how to express opinions, ask questions, agree or disagree, summarize information, and interact with others. For example, a teacher may begin a lesson with a short reading text. After reading, students identify the main idea and key vocabulary. Then they discuss the topic in pairs or groups. After the discussion, they write a short paragraph expressing their opinion. In this lesson, reading, speaking, and writing are connected naturally. Such activities make the learning process more meaningful and student-centered.

Another benefit of integrated skills teaching is increased motivation. Students often become more interested in lessons when they see a clear connection between classroom activities and real-life communication. Instead of doing isolated grammar exercises, learners take part in

discussions, role-plays, presentations, interviews, and writing tasks. These activities help them become more confident users of English. Integrated skills also support different learning styles.

Some students learn better through reading, while others prefer speaking, listening, or writing. When a lesson includes several skills, more students can participate successfully. This makes the lesson more inclusive and effective.

In addition, integrated skills teaching improves vocabulary acquisition. When students meet new words in a reading text, hear them in listening activities, use them in speaking, and apply them in writing, they remember the vocabulary better. Repetition in different contexts helps learners understand both meaning and usage. Teachers play an important role in organizing integrated skills lessons. They should choose materials that are suitable for students' level, interests, and learning goals. Tasks should be logically connected. For example, a lesson may follow this sequence: pre-reading discussion, reading comprehension, vocabulary work, speaking activity, and written reflection. This structure helps students move from understanding input to producing language. However, teaching through integrated skills may have some challenges. It requires careful lesson planning and time management. Some students may feel shy during speaking activities, while others may struggle with writing. To solve these problems, teachers should provide clear instructions, useful language support, examples, and group work opportunities. Gradual practice helps students become more confident.

#### **Practical Example of an Integrated Skills Lesson**

A lesson on the topic "Healthy Lifestyle" can be organized through integrated skills. First, the teacher asks students simple questions about healthy habits. This activates speaking skills and background knowledge. Then students read a short text about healthy lifestyle. After reading, they answer comprehension questions and find important vocabulary. Next, students discuss in pairs what habits are healthy or unhealthy. Finally, they write a short paragraph about how they can improve their lifestyle. This type of lesson helps students develop several skills at the same time. Reading gives them information, speaking allows them to exchange ideas, and writing helps them organize their thoughts. As a result, students learn English in a more practical and meaningful way.

#### **Conclusion**

Teaching English through integrated skills is an effective approach in modern language education. It connects reading, writing, listening, and speaking in a natural and meaningful way.

This approach develops learners' communicative competence, increases motivation, improves vocabulary learning, and prepares students for real-life communication. Although it requires careful planning, integrated skills teaching makes English lessons more interactive, practical, and learner-centered. Therefore, English teachers should use integrated skills activities regularly to help students become confident and competent language users.

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