

## EVALUATION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF DIFFERENT METHODS OF TEACHING THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE

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### Abstract

This article provides a comprehensive evaluation of the effectiveness of different methods used in teaching the Russian language. It explores traditional approaches, such as the Grammar-Translation Method, as well as modern methodologies, including Communicative Language Teaching (CLT), Task-Based Language Teaching (TBLT), and Total Physical Response (TPR). The article also examines Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) and the role of blended learning and technology integration in language acquisition. The analysis highlights the strengths and limitations of each method, offering insights into how various approaches impact language proficiency and learner engagement. The article emphasizes the importance of selecting the right teaching methods based on the learner's proficiency level, goals, and learning style, suggesting that a combination of approaches often yields the best results for students.

**Keywords:** Russian language teaching, Grammar Translation Method, Communicative Language Teaching (CLT), Task-Based Language Teaching (TBLT), Total Physical Response (TPR), Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL), Blended learning, Language proficiency, Teaching methods, Language acquisition.

### Introduction

The teaching of the Russian language, like any other language, involves the adoption of various methods and approaches to ensure that students gain proficiency in speaking, reading, writing, and listening. Given the complexity of Russian its grammar, pronunciation, and extensive vocabulary choosing the most effective teaching method can significantly impact learners' success. This article evaluates the effectiveness of several popular methods used in Russian language instruction.



### 1. Traditional Grammar Translation Method

One of the oldest and most widely used approaches in language learning is the Grammar Translation Method (GTM). This method focuses heavily on grammar rules, vocabulary memorization, and translation exercises. In the context of Russian, students may begin by translating texts from their native language into Russian and vice versa, while also learning grammar rules by heart.

**Effectiveness:** While the Grammar Translation Method is effective for building foundational knowledge of grammar and vocabulary, it often lacks the immersive experience required to develop fluency in realworld conversations. It is useful for understanding the structural components of the language, but it does not sufficiently promote speaking or listening skills. Thus, students who use this method may struggle with pronunciation and spontaneous communication in Russian.

### 2. Communicative Language Teaching (CLT)

In contrast to GTM, Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) emphasizes the importance of interaction and communication in language learning. CLT focuses on practical use of the language in reallife contexts, such as conversations, roleplaying, and problemsolving activities. It encourages students to use Russian in authentic situations and stresses fluency over accuracy in the early stages of learning.

**Effectiveness:** CLT has proven highly effective for improving speaking and listening skills. By prioritizing communication, students are better able to practice the language in realistic contexts, which helps them develop a natural understanding of sentence structure and vocabulary. However, one downside is that CLT may not provide enough attention to grammar and formal language rules, which are essential for higher proficiency. As a result, students may speak fluently but make errors that hinder their ability to write and understand complex texts.

### 3. TaskBased Language Teaching (TBLT)

TaskBased Language Teaching (TBLT) revolves around the completion of meaningful tasks using the target language. These tasks could range from writing a letter or presenting an argument to participating in a group discussion or conducting research. The main goal is for students to use Russian to achieve specific objectives rather than focus solely on the language itself.

**Effectiveness:** TBLT enhances the students' ability to engage in practical, real-world activities, making it highly effective for students aiming to use Russian in professional or academic contexts. It also helps with language acquisition because students are engaged in learning through doing. The challenge with TBLT is that tasks can be overwhelming for beginners, as they require a certain level of language proficiency. Additionally, this method often lacks a structured way to focus on grammar, which may hinder students' accuracy in the language.

### 4. Total Physical Response (TPR)

Total Physical Response (TPR) is a language teaching method where students respond physically to verbal instructions. It is based on the idea that language learning is most effective



when it involves motor activities, helping to reinforce vocabulary and phrases through actions. This method is particularly popular for teaching beginners and young learners.

**Effectiveness:** TPR is effective for building vocabulary and understanding basic phrases quickly. It appeals to kinesthetic learners who benefit from physical movement. The major advantage of TPR is its engaging nature, making it an enjoyable way to introduce new words and concepts. However, its limitations emerge when students progress beyond the beginner level. TPR focuses less on grammar and syntax, which are necessary for more advanced understanding of the language. Additionally, it might not develop writing or reading skills to the same extent as other methods.

### 5. Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL)

Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) is a bilingual teaching method where students learn a subject (such as history, geography, or science) in the target language, in this case, Russian. This approach is designed to improve both language proficiency and subject knowledge simultaneously.

**Effectiveness:** CLIL can be particularly effective for learners who are already familiar with the subject matter in their native language, as it allows them to focus on language acquisition in a specific context. It is beneficial for students seeking advanced proficiency in Russian because it provides exposure to academic vocabulary and complex sentence structures. However, CLIL may be overwhelming for beginners, as it assumes a certain level of proficiency in both the language and the subject matter. Moreover, it requires a welltrained teacher who is proficient in both the language and the content.

### 6. Blended Learning and Technology Integration

With the rise of digital platforms, blended learning—which combines online and inperson instruction—has become a popular approach. Online tools such as apps, virtual classrooms, language exchange programs, and multimedia content allow students to learn Russian in flexible, interactive ways. Technology also facilitates individualized learning, allowing students to progress at their own pace.

**Effectiveness:** Blended learning has been shown to be highly effective in reinforcing language skills, especially for learners with busy schedules. It offers a flexible, selfpaced approach while also providing opportunities for live interaction with instructors or peers. Technology integration allows for more personalized and engaging lessons, with access to realtime feedback and resources. However, the main challenge of blended learning is that it requires consistent selfdiscipline and motivation. Without adequate guidance and structure, students may not fully benefit from the online components.

### Conclusion:

The effectiveness of different methods for teaching the Russian language largely depends on the learners' goals, proficiency level, and learning style. While traditional approaches like the GrammarTranslation Method can provide a solid grammatical foundation, more communicative methods like CLT and TBLT are better suited for developing fluency in everyday language use. TPR is excellent for beginners and young learners, while CLIL is ideal



for advanced students looking to integrate language learning with academic content. Finally, the integration of technology through blended learning offers flexibility and personalized learning experiences, making it a powerful tool in modern language education. Ultimately, a combination of methods is often the most effective approach, as it allows for the development of all aspects of language proficiency speaking, listening, reading, and writing while catering to the diverse needs of learners.

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