

PHILOLOGICAL SCIENCES

INFLUENCE OF ENGLISH HOMEWORK ON A STUDENT

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Introductions. Every study and especially homework stands out among important part of educational process – writing. Every single student is involved in doing it after English period is over. It is basic part of out of University work affecting a student very much. Homework exists and it is difficult for teacher to replace it inventing something new instead of homework.

Aim. To show why homework influences a student.

Materials and Methods. Comparative.

Results and discussion. Homework plays important role in self – education of a student.

Doing it constantly preparing for the next English period affects a student very much but one cannot forget about teachers' roles, which they play in educational process, especially in giving homework to students and this role can include :

- provision of an opportunity for students to practise and refine their study skills ;
- consolidation of learning material, students have learned during English period ;
- encouragement of students to take responsibility for their learning ;
- help of students create and follow a study plan. [23.]

One shouldn't forget that support of teachers must have an impact on students. It includes :

- equipment of students with the skills to solve problems ;
- encouragement of real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination ;
- setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs ;
- giving students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities ;
- assesment of homework and provision of timely and practical feedback and support ;
- help of students in developing organisational and time-management skills ;
- guarantee of parents to be aware of the school's homework policy ;
- development of strategies within the University to support parents to become active partners in homework ;
- offering of wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their students' learning. [24.]

One should point out that the academic purposes of homework are :

- to make students acquire factual knowledge ;
- to improve academic study skills and raise positive attitudes towards homework ;
- to realize that learning can take place anywhere. [1, p. 85 – 91]

In addition, homework can be used :

- to measure students' learning achievements ;
- to develop independent study skills ;
- to advance classroom learning preparation [2, p. 55]

In terms of non-academic purposes a homework can :

- foster students to have more self-direction ;

- greater self-discipline ;
- better time organization ;
- more inquisitiveness ;
- more independence. [3, p. 45]

Likewise, Ramdass and Zimmerman note that homework :

- enhances students' self-regulation (promotion of students' motivation) ;
- increases cognitive and metacognitive skills in language learning (monitoring of their learning, seeking of appropriate strategies to complete homework, achievement of learning goals. [4, p. 194 – 218].

Thirdly, homework gets students :

- to make a choice to complete homework if it is important for them, because of their grade, thinking way of their parents, their interest in the topic of homework ;
- to feel confident in their understanding of completing as many homework tasks to achieve a purpose. [5, p. 57 – 58].

Fourthly, teachers have a significant impact :

- on student self-confidence ;
- on motivation ;
- on students' achievement. It is important for teachers to identify specific homework strategies that effectively increase homework completion and students' achievement.

Fifthly, there are some strategies which affect a student :

- real-life task strategies (intention of helping students make a connection between the classroom material being taught and real-life activities outside of school);
- a student planner (a self-managed skill used to create a positive homework practice) ;
- a self-monitoring task used by students (to be involved, to be proud of an accomplishment of a homework). [6, p. 35]

Steve Darn thinks, that a homework :

- reinforces and helps students to retain information taught in the classroom as well as to increase their general understanding of the language ;
- develops study habits and independent learning ;
- encourages students to acquire resources such as dictionaries and grammar reference books ;
- benefits factual knowledge, self-discipline, attitudes to learning and problem-solving skills ;
- offers opportunities for extensive activities in the receptive skills ;
- is an integral part of ongoing learning such as project work and the use of a graded reader ;
- provides continuity between lessons ;
- to consolidate classwork, but also for preparation for the next lesson ;
- is used to shift repetitive, mechanical, time-consuming tasks out of the classroom. ;
- bridges the gap between school and home ;
- is a useful assessment tool, as part of continual or portfolio assessment.

[7.]

Homework encourages self-development and self-discipline. Students who complete regular homework don't just get better at school and during exams, they learn broader life skills and associate hard work with long term rewards, and it leads to opportunities of carrying out an effective homework. [21.]

There are some hallmarks of effective homework :

Efficiency is the first hallmark of effective homework. Homework should not take an inordinate amount of time and should require thinking. Students who spend too much time on homework (more than 90 minutes at the middle school level) actually do worse than students who spend less time. [8, p. 15].

It provides a common expectation for homework that gradually increases, as students grow and develop. Tasks that are of moderate difficulty are most likely to enhance student motivation. [9, p. 467 – 482].

The effectiveness of homework depends on the quality of the homework and is largely influenced by how it is created and what it is composed of; this is where the influence of the teacher how to motivate students to engage with their homework assignments. [19, p. 181 – 193].

The second hallmark of effective homework is ownership. Students learn more and are more motivated. Providing students with choice in their tasks is one way to create ownership. [10, p. 155 – 165}. Homework should be structured in a way that the students can accomplish it with relatively high success rates. [11, p. 42 – 45].

Competence is the third hallmark of effective homework. Students feel competent in completing homework. In order to achieve this, it is beneficial to abandon the one-size-fits-all model. [12, p. 13].

There are the four homework tasks of the current study :

Tasks of students choice ;

Each homework task must have purpose (student understanding) ;

Straightforward tasks (students should be able to complete the tasks in time) ;

Preparatory homework for the lesson (lesson with teacher supervision.) [13,].

Homework can actually help the student with life skills :

organization ;

time management ;

independent critical thinking ;

improvement of study habits ;

attitudes toward school ;

self-discipline ;

inquisitiveness;

independent problem solving skills. [14.]

Every single homework must have its own advantages manifesting positive effect on :

improvement of retention ;

understanding ;

study skills ;

attitude towards school ;

fostering independence ;

responsibility ;

enhancement of appreciation of education. ; [15]o0

- improvement of the student's memory and thinking skills (reception of homework from teacher, independence of fulfillment of homework, acquisition of good grades, achievement of good results) ;

- help of homework to learn to manage time (fulfillment of homework gradually before deadline time) ;

- help of fulfillment of homework to take more responsibility (fulfillment of homework without external help) ;

- search for extra knowledge about subject (fulfillment of extensive research at home to complete homework) ;

- creation of independence over study (fulfillment of homework by himself). [16.]

- doing of homework together with friends (reception of benefits – refreshment of friends' minds, catching up on homework and sharing with friends and sharpening of friends communication skills. [22.]

Every single homework must have its own disadvantages manifesting negative effect on :

- feeling of overwhelmed, unmotivated and frustrated if a student is swamped with homework constantly ;

- students' physical and mental health ;

- lack of sleep ;

- headaches ;

- exhaustion ;

- weight loss ;

- feeling of isolation if not to spend much time with families and friends because of much homework ;

– assistance of parents being involved in fulfillment of homework causing low grades. [17.]

- ineffective teaching practice ;
- negative parental attitudes ;
- negative teacher attitudes ;
- poor expectations. [18, p. 6]

Every homework can affect negatively the reasons why students don't want to do homework at all :

- Lack of understanding (not to receive enough instruction leading to lack of the basic skills they need to complete homework) ;
- Positive role models don't exist (not to have access to positive role models which value education and encourage students to complete their homework) ;
- Parents are not available (lack of assistance of parents to offer help with at-homework) ;
- Extracurricular activities or after school jobs (difficulty in completing homework because of students' busy schedules) ;
- Too much time watching TV or engaging in social media (neglect of doing students' homework) ;
- Loud, distracting or cramped work environment (not to have a work environment that is conducive to concentration and learning) ;
- Lack of consistency (change of different school during study) ;
- A troubled home life (lack of motivation to do homework having a chaotic or troubling home life) ;
- Teenage pregnancies or parenting at a young age (struggle to find time to do their homework) ;
- Drug or alcohol use ;
- No feedback (not to receive any praise or constructive criticism). [20.]

Conclusions. Homework influences a student studying in the institution of higher education heavily. Without homework a student cannot acquire skills having

to do with skills of independent work. Giving a student a homework, a teacher makes a student develop these skills independently at home. If a student doesn't do homework at home, it affects him strongly and it can affect his grade after English period is over. A teacher would not give a student a good grade if a student didn't do a homework at home.

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