

### **The influence of extensive reading on language skill**

Reading is one of the main skills students must acquire when mastering a foreign language. It is not only a means of developing language skills but also the way of increasing student's motivation, getting acquainted with the countries where the target language is spoken.

There are various types of reading, among which extensive reading occupies a special place. Extensive reading is not a casual, inaccurate reading, as it may seem sometimes. This is reading of large quantities of material or long texts for general understanding with the intention of obtaining pleasure from the text (Shvarts L. M., Egorov T. G.).

Reading comprehension skills are very important, as they can positively influence spelling, vocabulary knowledge, grammar, writing, speaking and listening skills and student's general knowledge (Sijbrandij N., Krashen S.). The following aspects are influenced by extensive reading:

1. Reading. The experiment shows that extensive reading improves reading speed and reading comprehension. It teaches learners reading strategies for understanding such elements as content, textual features and cultural background.
2. Speaking. Language experiences and emotions created by the text foster oral skills.
3. Writing. Reading leads to the overall improvement in the quality of writing.
4. Vocabulary knowledge. The reader learns to guess the meaning of the context, the derivative forms of the words, international words, compounds and so on.
5. Spelling. While reading students improve their spelling accuracy as a result of extensive reading procedure.
6. Grammar. The students with wider reading experience acquire a more developed grammatical competence.
7. General knowledge. Reading increases students' world knowledge, emotional intelligence, abilities to compare, make conclusions and facilitate a personal point of view.
8. Motivation. Reading about culture and people may lead to changes in attitude to target language learning, reading for pleasure.

Extensive reading procedure is an effective and pleasurable way of increasing knowledge of English, motivating students for further reading and developing competence in speaking, writing and listening.