Training effective profession-oriented reading

The final goal of profession-oriented foreign language learning is the learners’ ability to communicate effectively in their future professional sphere. As the frames of existing curricula suppose limited hours of practical language training, and teaching German the lecturers very often suffer from the lack of appropriate German language textbooks, the profession-oriented reading is becoming one of the most dominating and valuable element among the traditional four basic language skills. It demands a language teacher’s flexibility and creativity to select the most adequate authentic materials and develop a learner oriented tasks.

Profession-oriented authentic texts, if they present modern trends in the development of a learner’s professional sphere, reflect a target language phenomena as well as give examples of cultural experience, are not only the valuable source of information, but significantly enrich a learners’ active vocabulary, train their comprehension skills, and highly motivate a language learner, as such a content-based approach responds to the basic learners’ needs in the most efficient way.

To prepare learners to work with professional literature, to simplify and enhance the process of understanding, it is reasonable to develop a complex of pre-reading exercises giving the chance to get acquainted with professional terms and active grammar structures. It is worth mentioning that exercises aimed at expanding vocabulary through word derivatives or synonymous words or structures are of great value. The post-reading exercises should be developed in such a way that they will be able not only to draw learners’ attention to some key aspects mentioned in the text under consideration, but give them ability to express their attitude and give the feedback to the problems discussed. Finally, a complex of revision exercises should be followed, in which new professional terms can be used in different language context. It will not only fix these new terms in learners’ memory, but provide language learners’ flexibility while working with new unfamiliar texts in their future professional field.