

**Training teachers of english for kindergartens:
experience and perspectives**

In February 2009 the Ministry of Education of Ukraine came to a decision to introduce English as separate subject in Ukrainian kindergartens. According to this decision English will be taught at kindergartens beginning from academic year 2009-2010. However, this innovation evokes many questions which will be discussed in the presentation. One of the main problems that arise in this sphere is training of future teachers of English for kindergartens. The English Language and Methodology Department of Kryvyi Rih State Pedagogical University has already prepared such specialists for six years and here are some of the problems we are facing:

- *Lack of appropriate text books.* In Ukraine there is still no textbook that could be used for training such specialists. We have developed a textbook for the first and second year students, but there are still a lot of ideas that could be implemented in the future;
- *Lack of the programs.* In our work we use the curriculum that was worked out in the Drahomanov Kyiv State Pedagogical University, but an all-Ukrainian curriculum seems to be of great importance.
- *Lack of materials.* The course in Methodology at our university is mainly based on the textbooks of different British publishing houses (Oxford University Press, Pearson/Longman) and selected video courses (Muzzy in Gondoland, Disney English). The creation of a Ukrainian textbook with additional materials is necessary.
- *Lack of the kindergartens where the students could have their teaching practice* (only three in Kryvyi Rih).

All these problems make training of future kindergarten teachers of English a difficult, though a rewarding job. English Language and Methodology Department of our university has developed a number of unique courses (in Methods of Teaching English, English Literature for Small Children, etc.) that can create a basis in the future work in this field.