SUMMARY AS A QUALITATIVE INDICATOR

OF WORKING WITH TEXT

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For contemporary students it is quite difficult to single out a main idea of a text and correlated supplementary ones, make a conclusion. So a development of skills of writing a summary is very helpful.

Today students use the Internet resources in preparation for seminars and various scholar papers. A problem is an attitude toward processing of information: students do not attentively and thoroughly read, do not take notes, they just make a copy and as a consequence they do not memorize texts. The Internet resources propose a great amount of useful information but a quantitative approach toward it dominates among students, so it is not a productive work with texts.

The development and improvement of practical skills of composing of a summary is very important because it is a qualitative indicator of working with a text. Composing of a summary includes the development of the following functions: analysis, systematization and generalization.

My teaching experience includes English and Business English for BA and MA students who are future sociologists, psychologists, journalists and rehabilitators. One of the important themes during these courses is composing of a summary. In 2010 I have published “Educational-Methodical Recommendations for Business English Course” in which it is an individual theme. The structure of summary is described with a detailed explanation step by step, necessary general scholar words and word combinations, samples of a summary are represented.

For composing a summary different types of texts are proposed for students. They include original English publicistic and scholar articles of general and specialized character from newspapers, journals, text books (for example, future
sociologists have materials from text books of Sociology and sociological reports). Students are acquainted with specialized vocabulary.

Also it is useful for students of all specialties to get an idea about contemporary social problems such as bioethics, GMO’s, globalization, gender, etc.

Summary can be represented in written form and as a base for essay or in oral as a brief re-telling, it is important in a discussion for expressing personal point of view. Summary is a significant element of scholar dialogue and monologue speech.