

THE WAYS OF TEACHING LEGAL ENGLISH

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Abstract: This article deals with the problems and ways of teaching legal English, its main tasks and features. The circumstances of its origin, information about specific terminology related to the law are given as well.

Keywords: Legalese, communicate, skills, contract drafting, challenges, legal professionals.

English is the language of international diplomacy and business, and it is increasingly becoming the language of the law as well. Aspiring lawyers in Uzbekistan must be able to communicate effectively in English in order to compete with lawyers from other countries. Teaching English to law students in Uzbekistan is not only valuable for the students, but it is also beneficial for the legal profession as a whole.

Legal English, often referred to as “Legalese,” is a specialized form of language used internationally by legal professionals and scholars to communicate with precision. As the international legal community continues to expand, the importance of having proficient legal English skills is increasing. This means that there are multitudes of non-native speakers around the world involved in the legal profession who need to learn legal English. The responsibility for this usually falls on the shoulders of TEFL teachers. However, you cannot just be any old TEFL teacher; you’ll need to specialize in teaching legal English.

In this article, we take a close look at what legal English is and how to teach legal English. Legal English, or “Legalese,” refers to a specialized form of language used in the legal profession to communicate legal concepts, principles, and documents. It involves precise and technical terminology, specific legal writing styles, and the use of formal language to ensure clarity and accuracy within the context of the law.

Lawyers, judges, solicitors, legislators, and others who are related to the legal profession use it. They use legal English to discuss the law. Usually, you will encounter it in legal documents and during court proceedings.

As such, it requires knowledge of specific terminology related to the law. It also demands a more precise way of speaking, because minor differences can create significantly different meanings. For example, the word “damage” describes harm to property or a person, while the word “damages” means monetary compensation awarded by a court for damage suffered. If you are teaching legal English, you will need to highlight such differences.

Teaching legal English requires a comprehensive approach to equip students and non-native legal professionals with the necessary English language skills to excel in the complex world of law. You will need to ensure that your students can navigate the intricacies of legal terminology, contract drafting, and courtroom communication in English. The good news is that there are a variety of innovative techniques and tailored methodologies to help you achieve this.

Teaching English to law students in Uzbekistan can have many benefits. With the right instruction, law students can develop the language skills needed to succeed in the global legal field. English can be used as a tool to gain access to international legal resources, as well as to participate in international conferences and debates.

The benefits of teaching English to law students in Uzbekistan are not only limited to the students. It can also have an impact on the legal profession in Uzbekistan. By teaching English to law students, legal professionals can gain access to a wider pool of resources and a larger network of legal professionals. This can help to bridge the gap between local and international law.

Despite the many benefits of teaching English to law students in Uzbekistan, there are still some challenges that must be addressed. The main challenge is the lack of knowledge of English among the students. Many of the students are not native speakers and have limited language proficiency. This means that they may not be able to understand the legal language used in English. It should also be noted that there is the challenge of finding qualified teachers. Teaching English to law students is a specialized task, and it is not always easy to find qualified teachers who are knowledgeable about the legal system. There are challenges in incorporating technologies in ESP classes such as the lack of both ESP teachers and students, technologies becoming distracters instead of an asset, etc. One way to teach English to law students is to use interactive activities. These activities can help to keep the students engaged and can help to reinforce the lessons. For example, role-playing and case studies can be used to enhance the learning experience.

It is also important to use authentic materials when teaching English to law students. Authentic materials such as legal documents, court cases, and news articles can help the students to gain a better understanding of the language used in the legal profession.

Finally, it is important to use modern technology when teaching English to law students. Technology can be used to create interactive lessons, as well as to access a variety of resources.

When teaching English to law students, there are certain best practices that should be followed. It is important to create a positive learning environment, where students feel comfortable asking questions and participating in the lessons.

It is also important to provide many opportunities for practice. Practice is essential for mastering the language, and law students should be given the opportunity to practice their language skills in a variety of ways.

Finally, it is important to provide feedback to the students. This can help to motivate the students and can help to keep them on track. According to Inesa (2019), English is a key component in helping achieve professional and career development for law students. Therefore, it is important to study best practices in different. Law students face many challenges during the learning process of Legal English. They face difficulties understanding the content of the subject and they lack vocabulary to express their ideas. Some students have limited knowledge in General English. Teachers as well face many challenges while teaching Legal English. Teaching Legal English is a huge challenge for teachers who are not experts in law. Teachers face problems since they have to teach content in an area of study about which they have little knowledge. Team-teaching proves to be very helpful for ESP teachers. In this case, the ESP teacher collaborates with a subject specialist, a practice that is widely prevalent at Tashkent State University of Law. Legal English teachers can effectively

cooperate with Law teachers. Legal English is characterized by a special language in which are included legal terms of art, legal jargon, word which have a different meaning in General English and a different one in Legal English, words that are used in a peculiar context, lack of punctuation and the use of doublets and triplets. Some of the challenges that teachers face in multilevel classes are related to: different levels of students, lack of time, class management, the practice of grammar during the Legal English class, collaboration of students, error correction, losing students' attention, monitoring the students and the weakest students being left apart. There are also many benefits in teaching Legal English in large multilevel classes. In these classes, the teacher is given the opportunity to make use of different activities such as discussing, brainstorming, working in groups. Students can work with different partners. Diversity and variety dominate these classes. In these classes, the students can learn as much from each other as they can learn from the teacher. The climate that encourages students to help one another or ask help from their peers helps the students and the teachers to achieve the objectives. Collaboration is the best way to learn in these classes. The teacher can engage students in many activities, which aim to improve the skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking Legal English. Finally, Legal English teachers can be effective in multilevel classes by showing enthusiasm, managing the classroom, involving all the students in the lesson, using a variety of teaching styles and methodologies, paying attention to individual needs, providing frequent feedback to students and motivating students to keep improving their knowledge.

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