

СТАНОВИЩЕ

By Prof. Dr. Diana Dimitrova Yankova, New Bulgarian University, 2.1. Philology, for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in professional field 1.3. Methods of Teaching Modern Languages (English) with applicant Dilyan Petrov Gatev.

The aim of Dilyan Petrov Gatev's dissertation IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF TEACHING TERMINOLOGICAL LEXICS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING FOR SPECIALIZED PURPOSES OF BULGARIAN STUDENTS IN ECONOMICS is to develop a model of teaching techniques and a set of learning activities, to facilitate and improve the acquisition of knowledge and skills by economics students studying specialized English, with a focus on the acquisition of specialized terminology. The main hypothesis of the study is that such a model will prove to be effective precisely in the acquisition of terms and in the development of terminological vocabulary competence in the study group.

The research methodology is detailed and includes a range of research methods. A thorough theoretical review of the literature on the subject is undertaken, discussing the definitions of terminology that D. Gatev uses in the dissertation: lexical competence, in particular terminological lexical competence; terms and phrases and their function in general and specialized language are discussed, as well as the various semantic relations in which they participate.

Different approaches to learning and teaching specialised language are also discussed. A critical analysis is provided of the current English language curriculum and teaching materials in Business English used at the University of National and World Economy, and an evaluation by subject specialists of the English-Bulgarian dictionary for economists created by the author,



which forms an important part of the PhD model, is included. An experiment was conducted in the academic year 2020/2021 at the UNWE to verify the effectiveness of the proposed methodological model, which includes surveys with students and lecturers and testing of students who participated in the experiment, and an error analysis of students' terminological vocabulary competence. Statistical methods are applied to process the results of the validation of the model.

The main conclusion reached by D. Gatev on the basis of the results of the methodological model is that the preliminary expectations that the application of the model of teaching techniques and learning activities leads to higher efficiency in developing terminological vocabulary competence in Bulgarian students of economics who study business English. Some of the other conclusions reached by the doctoral student are well known in practice: for example, that a foreign language teacher needs to be familiar with the specialised area in which he or she teaches, and that it is important to emphasise to students the difference in the meaning of a given lexical unit in general and specialised language, and that specialised and general language differ mostly in vocabulary. Statistical treatment of the data is given in quite a few of the findings, but without analysis of why the results are so. For example, it is interesting to find that about half of the students surveyed think that specialized vocabulary is no more difficult to acquire than general vocabulary, while the majority of the lecturers take the opposite view, but no discussion of why this is so follows, i.e. it remains at the level of description rather than analysis.

I would also recommend that the dissertation and the summary standardize the citation of authors in the text - some are given two names, others with only their family name.

Dilyan Gatev also presents other publications, mostly related to the topic of his dissertation, but also to other topics, such as the semantics of adjectives, stereotypes of the Old World in Mark Twain's *The Innocents Abroad*, etc., as well as presenting papers at scientific conferences.

Conclusion:

All recommendations and critical comments are intended to contribute to a better analysis and



do not detract from the work of the doctoral student in processing the research material and the results achieved. My assessment of the research is high and I believe it is a serious work that meets the requirements of Art. 27 of the Law for the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. Therefore, I accord positive assessment of the dissertation by Dilyan Petrov Gatev and recommend that he be awarded the degree of Doctor of Education and Science in professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of Education in...., scientific specialty Methodology of Teaching Modern Languages (English).

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Signed: