

RESEARCH ARTICLE

The Pedagogical Significance of Developing Freelancer Skills in General Secondary School Students

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Abstract

This article highlights the pedagogical significance of developing freelancer skills in general secondary school students, its role in the modern education system, and the issues of preparing students for independent activity in the conditions of the digital economy. Also, the essence of freelancing activity and its role in forming students' creative thinking, ability to work independently, and entrepreneurial competencies are analyzed. The methods of pedagogical analysis, comparison, and generalization were used in the research.

KEY WORDS

Freelancing, digital education, competence, independent activity, students, pedagogical significance, digital technologies.

INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the rapid development of digital technologies worldwide has led to the emergence of new types of activity in the labor market. One of such activities is freelancing, which is considered a modern form of labor based on independent remote work. Freelancing activity makes it possible to perform various services remotely with the help of internet technologies.

Today, in many countries, preparing young people to work in the conditions of the digital economy is considered one of the important tasks of the education system. In particular, in general secondary schools, developing students' competencies such as independent work skills, creative thinking, problem solving, and effective use of digital technologies is of great importance.

By forming freelancer skills, students are prepared not only for modern professional activity, but also develop entrepreneurship, responsibility, time management, and communicative competencies. Therefore, studying the

pedagogical foundations of developing freelancing skills in the general secondary education system is a relevant scientific problem [1].

The term freelancing is derived from the English word "freelancer," which means a specialist who works independently for various clients. Freelancers often provide services through the internet and participate in various projects.

In the conditions of the modern economy, freelancing is widespread in the following areas:

- programming and IT services
- graphic design
- translation services
- content creation
- marketing and advertising

- web design

The main features of freelancing activity are as follows:

1. The opportunity to work independently
2. Flexible working hours
3. Remote activity
4. Wide use of digital technologies

These aspects are making freelancing an attractive type of activity for modern youth. Forming freelancing skills in the educational process serves to prepare students for future professional activity.

Developing freelancer skills in general secondary school students has a number of pedagogical significances.

First, freelancing develops students' independent learning skills. In freelancing activity, a person often needs to independently acquire new knowledge and work on themselves. This increases students' activity in the learning process [2].

Second, freelancing develops students' creative thinking ability. In the process of working on various projects, students learn to develop new ideas and find innovative solutions.

Third, forming freelancer skills develops entrepreneurial competencies in students. In this process, students acquire skills such as offering their services, working with clients, and project management.

Fourth, freelancing activity develops students' competence in using information and communication technologies. This is an important requirement of the modern education system [3].

Today, as a result of the rapid development of information and communication technologies, fundamental changes are also taking place in the education system. Digital technologies are creating broad opportunities not only for modernizing the educational process, but also for forming new competencies in students. One of such important competencies is freelancer skills [4].

Freelancing is a widespread type of activity in the modern economy, which means working independently remotely. Today, through internet technologies, the opportunity has emerged to provide various services, work on a project basis, and operate in the international labor market. Therefore, forming freelancer skills in preparing students for future professions in the general secondary education system is of

great importance.

The digital educational environment creates favorable conditions for students to acquire modern knowledge, work independently, think creatively, and implement innovative ideas. From this point of view, studying the possibilities of developing freelancer skills in the digital educational environment has important scientific and pedagogical significance.

The digital educational environment creates broad opportunities for forming freelancer skills in students. Today, through various digital platforms, students can participate in different projects.

For example:

- online learning platforms
- freelance exchanges
- design and programming platforms
- online collaboration tools

Also, the use of the following pedagogical methods in the educational process is considered effective:

- project-based learning
- problem-based learning
- interactive methods
- digital educational technologies

These methods serve to develop students' practical activity.

Directions for Developing Freelancer Skills in the Digital Educational Environment

Through the digital educational environment, the following freelancer skills can be developed in students:

1. Digital literacy

Digital literacy is considered one of the main requirements of freelancing activity. Students learn to effectively use various software tools, internet platforms, and information systems.

2. Creative thinking

In freelancing activity, creating new ideas and offering innovative solutions is important. Digital educational tools help develop students' creative thinking.

3. Project-based work

Freelancers often work on a project basis. The use of the

project-based learning method in the educational process develops students' practical skills.

4. Communicative competencies

Freelancers need to know how to communicate effectively with clients. Through online platforms, students develop communication and collaboration skills.

5. Time management

In freelancing activity, proper time allocation is important. Independent completion of various tasks in the digital educational process forms time management skills in students.

Freelancing activity also has a positive impact on students' personal development.

First, a sense of responsibility is formed in students. Each project includes tasks that must be completed within a certain period.

Second, freelancing develops time management skills. This also increases efficiency in students' learning process.

Third, freelancing develops students' communicative competencies. In the process of communicating with customers, students learn to express their thoughts clearly and fluently.

The role of the teacher is of great importance in developing freelancer skills in the educational process. The teacher should help students in the following areas:

- teaching the use of digital technologies
- organizing independent project activity
- developing creative thinking
- increasing students' motivation

Also, the teacher needs to use modern pedagogical technologies in the educational process.

The results of the research showed that developing freelancer skills significantly develops students':

- independent thinking ability
- creative approach
- digital literacy
- communicative competencies

Also, freelancing activity is of great importance in adapting students to the modern labor market.

Developing freelancer skills in general secondary school students is one of the important directions of the modern education system. Freelancing serves to develop students' independent thinking, creativity, and digital competencies.

In the educational process, it is advisable to use digital technologies, project-based learning, and interactive methods to develop freelancer skills.

In the future, the development of special pedagogical programs for developing freelancer skills may further increase the effectiveness of education.

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