

Chapter 9

Using Lean Method in English Language Classes

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ABSTRACT

New approaches, methods, and tools are necessary for the implementation of the modern management system in educational organizations. The main purpose of this chapter is to determine using the lean method in foreign language teaching. The lean method is new in educational systems, but it is used in different spheres of industries all over the world. This chapter shows the history, its implementation, experiments, and how it can be used and developed further. Lean in education will create a clear understanding of its importance on lean process and increase the motivations of administrations, teachers, and students.

INTRODUCTION

Modern school teaching methodology is going through a difficult period associated with the change of education goals and updating the content of education. Creativity, independent thinking and critical thinking skills that are related to quality thinking and independent thinking are becoming the most popular (Orakci, Durnali, Aktan, 2019). All these circumstances demand new pedagogical researches in the field of the method of teaching of subjects, search of innovative means, forms and methods of training. The modern educational technologies are used for realization of cognitive and creative activity of the pupil in educational process which is giving the chance to improve quality of education, more effectively use educational time.

In the world, English is one of the languages of intercultural communication in the field of business communication. At the moment, the knowledge of English in Kazakhstan is included not only in the list of mandatory conditions for studding abroad, but also is a determining element of the competitiveness of young professionals in the labor market, both in the country and abroad. More recently, English has

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been identified as a condition for successful entry into the global economy and has become regarded as one of the main priorities of public policy. In this regard, more attention is paid to the English language, and the teaching of languages at school.

The methods of teaching foreign languages are important. There are different methods of teaching English. It is necessary to pay attention to the new ways of stimulating the speech of students. Education is an active interaction between teachers and students, and it should not be one-side. It depends on the teacher how successful the learning process will be organized. And as a method, Lean gives a chance to the teacher, students and administration to work together, to organize the learning process and to achieve the goals together.

Lean is a method which helps to improve efficiency, productivity, and quality. It is a way looking how we do things, and removing as much wastes as possible. When we remove wastes we don't necessarily just throw things away, we can take resources that don't value at one place and use it somewhere else. When wasteful steps are removed from a process, people focus on time and talents on quality work.

BACKGROUND

Let's look at the origins of lean. The ancestor of this system is the engineer Taiichi Ono, who worked in the Japanese automobile company Toyota Motor Corporation. It was T. Ono who united all known at that time methods of effective production, which allowed to bring the automobile enterprise to a new level. And this unique system was called Toyota Production System. Although it was created as an automotive production system, it is now widely recognized for its revolutionary approach to doing business, which provides more choice to consumers, more decision making involvement for workers and greater, more efficient productivity to companies. TPS is synonymous with "lean production" or "lean manufacturing," a term coined by researchers in the International Motor Vehicle Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) (Womack, Jones, and Roos, 1990). Since then Lean technologies have been applied in Europe and the USA (Volkova, 2016).

Lean is the set of operational principles created by Toyota, a recognized leader in quality automobile manufacturing. Many American companies, in both auto manufacturing and diverse other fields, have attempted to imitate Lean best practices. A joint General Motors and Toyota effort to import Lean to the United States resulted in the transformation of GM's Fremont, California, plant—one of the worst in the country in terms of quality, productivity and morale—into the New United Motor Manufacturing plant, which was recognized within five years as one of the best (Adler, 1993). Also, Babson (1995) shows some of the characteristics of lean production: Inventories in a "lean" plant are taken on a just-in-time basis to minimize handling and expose defective parts before they accumulate in the warehouse; stockpiles of in-process work are also sharply reduced so that defects are immediately exposed at their source, before they fill the plant's repair bays with defective products; "indirect" labor (supervision, inspection, and maintenance) is pared and specialized job classifications are reduced or eliminated, replaced by teams of cross-trained production workers who rotate jobs and take on responsibilities for quality control, repair, housekeeping, and preventive maintenance.

Initially, lean was used in industrial production, and then they were used in trade, services, public administration, health and education. Why is it necessary to introduce lean production technologies in education? This is because significant results can be achieved in a relatively short period of time. The

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