



The Need To Modernise

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Abstract

Being an English and French professor in Croatia has made me often wonder about the future of its youth. Languages have become a crucial focal point of many with Croatia being on the brink of full EU membership. Languages will be of great importance for the future development of this young state's youth if they want to establish themselves in and out of Croatia. In order for them to do so, they must welcome new technology as a key tool in their teaching methods and further develop their skills.

Analyzing the results of my own students, it is noticeable that they generally reach B1 or B2 levels which is quite solid, but lose interest as they progress due to unattractive and inappropriate textbooks. With the use of interactive materials their knowledge could be heightened. Their thirst for languages could be quenched by simplifying their learning process, using materials that are more common to them. Being a computer generation, this encourages them to show a greater interest in gaining language competence. Different types of long distance learning could be implemented. Remote locations can also benefit immensely from such an approach and can easily be connected to the rest of society. Older generations would benefit the most from long distance learning. These remote locations are generally populated with an older age group. It would also be easier for people to find time in their busy schedules to learn as all they need is an internet connection.

The role of the professor will always be crucial in the learning process but will be more efficient as they can reach a larger scale of people in need of language skills or other qualifications. Professors are able to keep up to date with the student's progress by clicking a few buttons and save on time. With less time, it is possible to have a clearer picture of someone's progress. Cheating can easily be monitored through an interactive system and it reduces the chances of falsifying results.

There is obviously a need to improve language competency in Croatia, companies will have to invest in their employees in order for them to stay competitive on the European market. Using modern technology is a less expensive and more effective option than the classic classroom approach.

Other countries that are in a similar position as Croatia must do the same and follow in the footsteps of the nations which have already completed this modernization process.

The future of education lies in modern technology and does not exclude the importance of the teacher as a supervisor and mentor of it all. The world is already implementing this technique. Croatia is in the process of doing so and can only grow stronger from it.