

Висновки з проведеного дослідження. Динамічний розвиток нових мобільних та Інтернет-технологій, постійне оновлення фахово-зорієнтованого інформаційного масиву обумовлює необхідність забезпечити майбутніх фахівців не лише якісною базовою професійною освітою, а й високим рівнем володіння англійською мовою. Також є доцільним доцільне вивчення навчальних дисциплін, таких як «Інформатика», у відповідному англомовному програмному інтерфейсі.

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ACADEMIC COMPETITIONS ARE ONE OF THE WAYS OF STUDENTS' GAINING SOFT SKILLS

Анотація. Автори статті акцентують увагу на важливості академічних конкурсів з точки зору набуття компетентностей, необхідних у 21 столітті. Добре організований академічний конкурс є цінним інструментом для сприяння не лише дослідницькій діяльності, але й творчим здібностям і розвитку навичок, необхідних для успіху в сучасному світі. Автори досліджують взаємозв'язок між типами змагань і видами навичок м'якого спілкування, які можна отримати завдяки участі в них.

Ключові слова: академічна конкуренція, м'які навички, компетентність, наукові роботи.

Summary. The authors of this paper focus on the importance of academic competitions in terms of acquiring competencies required in the 21st century. A well-organized academic competition is a valuable tool for promoting not only research activities, but also creative abilities, and developing skills that are essential for success in today's world. The authors examine the correlation between types of competitions and types of soft skills that may be gained through participation in them.

Keywords: academic competition, soft skills, competency, research papers.

We can hardly overestimate the importance and role of academic competitions as they are an integral component of university education that encourage participants to get deeper insights into their chosen field of study and help assess participants' knowledge, skills, and abilities in specific academic subjects and other areas of knowledge. According to some experts, the concept of academic competitions can be considered as a tool for identifying talented and creative students, promoting academic excellence, monitoring their academic progress and studying activities.[1] These competitions often involve challenging tests, projects, presentations, and debate competitions, Olympiads that require participants to showcase not only their knowledge and understanding of the subject but also their communication skills within a particular academic field.

They are designed to teach talented students, among other things, how to handle the pressures of real-life challenges. As we have already mentioned, there are a lot of popular types of academic competitions in various fields of studies that students can take part in, each type offers unique opportunities, challenges, and rewards, contributing to students' academic and personal development, and all of them are united by the common goal to enhance students' employment opportunities and prepare them for their future careers.

Not all students understand the role and importance of academic competitions, so one of the educators' tasks is to motivate and encourage students to take part in competitions, explaining their advantages and benefits. One cannot deny the essential role played by educators and competition organizers in this educational paradigm, who take on not only roles of instructors but also coaches and mentors, offering encouragement and moral support that, no doubt, have a positive impact on students. Participating in academic competitions offers several benefits and advantages for students. As Green and McGil (2011) state, they help students improve their innovation ability, learning ability, practice ability, and cooperation ability. They also provide practical situations where students can develop communication, leadership, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. Students who engage in academic competitions, including extracurricular activities, have an advantage when it comes to entry-level employment or shifting into new occupations that may emerge.[2]

Generally speaking, academic competitions provide students with opportunities to enhance their skills, extend the borders of knowledge, providing an education that goes beyond textbooks and lectures. From the practical point of view, through academic competitions, students gain hands-on experience and become more competitive in the job market. Research conducted by Harvard University, the Carnegie Foundation, and Stanford Research Center has all concluded that 85% of job success comes from having well-developed soft and people skills, and only 15% of job success comes from technical skills and knowledge (hard skills).[2]

Considering the importance of students' acquiring soft skills through academic competitions and sharing their experience, Charles Debelak and his colleagues describe their vision of the competitions, suggesting the coined phrase «high-quality competition» which envisages identifying those competitions that offer a complete

program for learning and growing in specific areas of study; another coined phrase «soft competition» envisages the potential negative effects of the competition while appreciating the benefits and considering them as springboards for growth; and finally «intellectual ceilings» which are to be removed due to the participation. [3].

Analyzing the research literature and the practices of some high education institutions, we can focus on the list of key benefits of academic competitions:

- *Expansion of Academic and Scientific Knowledge*: Participation in academic competitions provides the students with opportunities to expand the boundaries of their knowledge beyond the curriculum.

- *Practical Application of Theoretical Knowledge*: Acquiring theoretical knowledge needs practical application; otherwise, it will be useless; through contests students can bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application.

- *Professional, Interpersonal, and Economic Understanding*: Students become involved in the nuances of professional behavior, teamwork, and the economic implications of their field of study.

- *Identification of Strengths and Weaknesses*: Competing individually or in groups against peers gives students a possibility to assess their capabilities and the level of competence in a chosen field, to strengthen their intention of improving in terms of personal and academic growth.

- *Development of Teamwork Skills*: Many competitions involve group challenges, teaching students how to acquire such skills as conflict management, active listening, respect for teammates.

- *Building Confidence and Self-Esteem*: Participating in competitions, students accumulate experience of taking the risk, moving outside their comfort zone, and as a result, they become more resilient to failures, gaining more confidence in their ability.

- *Encouraging Innovation and Creativity*: Academic competitions provide students with a perfect ground for innovative and creative thinking, encourage them to find alternative and unique solutions to complex problems, ensuring an effective way to generate new ideas and stimulate creativity.

- *Preparing for Future Academic Endeavors*: Academic competitions prepare students for the future, nurturing and fostering a broad range of skills: critical thinking, communication, time management, etc.

As we can see, academic competitions provide the students with opportunities to showcase their knowledge in a particular academic subject alongside gaining needed soft skills. In order to obtain a desired outcome, academic competitions should be well-prepared, properly conducted, and organized with a follow-up plan. The academic competition design embraces several phases (a planning phase, a launching phase, and a post-competition phase), each of them requires special attention to provide complete understanding of the complexity level, requirements, assessment, and know-how needed for their organization.

One of the most important aspects of the competition design is to define what skills and competencies are to be developed, taking into consideration the type of the contest. Students would benefit from clarification of what competencies enhance performance and how best to develop them.

According to the OECD's DeSeCo Project, the list of the most required competencies of the 21st century on the labor market may be grouped into five broad categories: analytic skills, interpersonal skills, ability to execute, information processing, and capacity for change/learning.

From a purely economic viewpoint, competencies of individuals are seen as important because they contribute to: boosting productivity and market competitiveness; minimizing unemployment through developing an adaptive and qualified labor force; and creating an environment for innovation in a world dominated by global competition [4].

Taking into account the purpose of the study, we would like to offer the correlation between academic competitions and competencies acquired through them. Here are some examples of types of academic competitions, each of them pursues certain goals and brings about expected outcomes.

Olympiads – give a fair chance to students to exhibit their skills and competence, assess their power of reasoning, aptitude knowledge, and understanding regarding the core subject.

Acquired skills: critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, effective communication.

Competitions of research papers – stimulate students' research activities, test innovative ideas, and showcase their groundbreaking ideas.

Acquired skills: research skills, academic writing skills, logical thinking.

Student Presentation Competitions – offer uninterrupted speaking practice and the possibility to gain confidence in public speaking, using visual aids, experience in engaging with the audience, and addressing their queries and feedback.

Acquired skills: communication skills, public speaking skills, time management skills.

This list of competitions can be prolonged, but it will be the subject of our further study.

Thus, highlighting the importance of academic competitions, we may conclude that they make a significant contribution to boosting research excellence, opportunities to develop communication tools to get the research noticed, to deepen knowledge, to enhance understanding, appreciation, and interest around research, keeping students motivated and engaged.

Having examined some types of academic competitions, we could confidently claim that by participating, students gain useful skills that are essential for their future academic and professional careers, preparing them for challenges that may arise.

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ТИПОВІ ПОМИЛКИ ПРИ НАПИСАННІ НАУКОВИХ ТЕКСТІВ НІМЕЦЬКОЮ МОВОЮ ТА ШЛЯХИ ЇХ ПОПЕРЕДЖЕННЯ

У часи глобалізаційних процесів та академічної мобільності в освіті написання наукових текстів є невід'ємним елементом формування професійної компетенції студентів. Науковий текст слугує поширенню та отриманню нових знань і, як правило, є початком непрямого комунікативного процесу: автор формулює свої знання у вигляді тексту, який повинен бути «розшифрований» читачами. На відміну від усної комунікації читачі не мають можливості відразу поставити автору уточнююче запитання, щоб виключити непорозуміння, чи зробити зауваження. Тому до наукового тексту висувається низка вимог – на рівні тексту (структура, логічність викладу), на граматичному (розповідь від першої особи множини) та на лексичному рівні (напр., фахова термінологія, відсутність метафор), дотримання яких дозволяє забезпечити адекватне сприйняття інформації читачем та досягнення задуму автора. Пропонуємо огляд типових лексичних та граматичних помилок, яких часто припускаються при написанні наукових текстів та на які потрібно звернути увагу при навчанні писемного мовлення німецькою мовою.