

## **MATERIALS FOR TEACHING CULTURE: LITERATURE AND NEWSPAPER**

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### **Abstract**

Using literature and newspapers as materials for teaching culture provides learners with authentic insights into the values, traditions, and everyday life of a society; while literature teaches cultural and emotional interests through stories and characters, newspapers uncover learners to real-time events, language usage, and societal issues, making them both essential tools in culturally enriched language education.

**Key words:** Culture. Language learning. Literature. Newspapers. Authentic materials. Cultural awareness. Traditions. Values. Real-life context

### **Annotatsiya**

Adabiyot va gazetalar orqali madaniyatni òrgatish òquvchilarda madaniyatga bòlgan qiziqishni va bilimlarni oshiradi; adabiyot hikoyalar va qahramonlar orqali chuqur madaniy va hissiy istiqbollarni òrgatsa, gazetalar o'quvchilarni real vaqtdagi voqealar, tildan foydalanish va ijtimoiy muammolarni ochib beradi va bu ikkalasini ham madaniy jihatdan boyitilgan til ta'limining muhim vositalariga aylantiradi.

**Kalit so'zlar:** Madaniyat. Til o'rganish. Adabiyot. Gazetalar. Haqiqiy materiallar. Madaniy xabardorlik. An'analar. Qadriyatlar. Haqiqiy hayot konteksti

### **Аннотация**

Использование литературы и газет в качестве материалов для обучения культуре дает учащимся подлинное понимание ценностей, традиций и повседневной жизни общества; в то время как литература предлагает глубокие культурные и эмоциональные перспективы через истории и персонажей, газеты знакомят учащихся с событиями в реальном времени, использованием языка и общественными проблемами, что делает их важными инструментами в культурно обогащенном языковом образовании.

**Ключевые слова:** Культура. Изучение языка. Литература. Газеты. Аутентичные материалы. Культурная осведомленность. Традиции. Ценности. Контекст реальной жизни

In language education, teaching culture is just as important as teaching grammar and vocabulary. Culture shapes how people think, speak, and behave, and understanding it helps learners use the language more naturally and appropriately. Among the many tools available for teaching culture, two stand out for their authenticity and educational value: literature and newspapers. These materials not only enrich the learning process but also create a bridge between language and the real world.

Literature, such as novels, poems, and short stories, provides learners with deep emotional and historical perspectives. Through characters, settings, and dialogues, students can explore different ways of life, social norms, and cultural values. For example, reading a short story from another culture allows learners to experience how people from that society think, love, struggle, or celebrate.

Newspapers, on the other hand, present up-to-date, real-world content. Articles on politics, entertainment, and daily events help students learn about modern lifestyles, social issues, and common language expressions used in everyday communication. By reading the news, learners not only improve their language skills but also develop cultural awareness by understanding what is happening in the world of the target language.

Therefore, using literature and newspapers in the classroom creates a rich and meaningful cultural learning experience. These resources help students move beyond textbook knowledge and gain a deeper, more personal understanding of the target culture, making language learning more relevant and engaging.

Literature is one of the most effective tools for teaching culture because it reflects the thoughts, emotions, and traditions of a society. When students read stories, poems, or plays, they are not only learning the language but also gaining insight into the values and beliefs of the people who speak it. For example, reading American or British literature can show how themes like individualism, freedom, or family are portrayed in different time periods. Moreover, literature often contains idioms, metaphors, and culturally specific references that help students understand how language is connected to cultural identity. Through character development and setting, learners are exposed to social norms, customs, and even historical events. Literature

also encourages empathy, as students begin to understand different viewpoints and cultural experiences. In this way, it becomes more than a language lesson — it becomes a window into the heart of a culture.

While literature provides a deep and often emotional view of a culture, newspapers give learners a more current and practical understanding of it. Newspapers are full of real-life stories, opinions, and news that reflect the values, interests, and concerns of a society. By reading articles on politics, education, lifestyle, or entertainment, students learn about what matters to people in that culture today. Newspapers also expose learners to formal and informal language, including journalistic expressions and modern vocabulary. For example, reading a newspaper article about a national holiday or a social issue helps students understand how these topics are discussed publicly and how the culture responds to them. Additionally, opinion columns and letters to the editor introduce diverse viewpoints, encouraging critical thinking and cultural comparison.

In conclusion, literature and newspapers are powerful and complementary tools for teaching culture in the language classroom. Literature offers timeless insights into the emotions, traditions, and values of a culture through storytelling and creative expression. It helps learners develop empathy and a deeper understanding of cultural identity. Newspapers, on the other hand, provide up-to-date and realistic information about a society's current events, language usage, and social issues. They help students connect the language they are learning with real-world situations and perspectives. By combining both resources in language teaching, educators can offer students a rich, dynamic, and meaningful cultural learning experience. Ultimately, understanding a language is not just about speaking it correctly — it is also about understanding the people who speak it, and literature and newspapers make that possible.

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