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Integration of Interdisciplinary Connections in Russian Language Lessons

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Abstract: This article examines both the theoretical underpinnings and practical techniques for integrating interdisciplinary connections into Russian language instruction at the secondary-school level. It highlights how cross-subject collaboration enriches students' holistic understanding, enhances their linguistic competence, and fosters critical thinking. Sample methodologies draw on materials from literature, history, social studies, the natural sciences, and the arts.

Keywords: Russian language, interdisciplinary integration, lesson planning, methodology, communicative competence.

Introduction: Contemporary education seeks not merely to transmit isolated facts, but to help students build an interconnected worldview and develop the ability to draw on multiple disciplines. For Russian language lessons, an interdisciplinary approach:

1. Enriches linguistic material with authentic content from other fields;
2. Boosts student motivation by situating texts within broader cultural, scientific, or historical contexts;
3. Develops critical and analytical skills through comparative and research-based tasks.

1. Theoretical Foundations

1. Holistic Education Paradigm

The Federal State Educational Standards (FGOS) mandate systemic and variable instruction that encourages intersubject links and cultivates universal learning actions (ULAs).

2. Communicative Competence as Knowledge Synthesis

True language proficiency encompasses correct oral

and written usage as well as the skill to employ language as a tool for gathering and analyzing information across disciplines.

3. Cognitive Learning Principles

Cognitive psychology research indicates that new knowledge is better retained when anchored to existing schemas. Interdisciplinary ties serve as these “anchors,” facilitating deeper memory consolidation.

2. Forms and Methods of Integration

1. Thematic Unit Planning

Organize language units around themes that naturally intersect with other subjects (e.g., “Exploration and Geography,” “Historical Lyric Genres”).

2. Project-Based Learning

Assign mini-projects requiring students to combine linguistic analysis with factual research from history, culture, ecology, or other fields—such as writing an

essay on “Language and Power Across Eras.”

3. Authentic Texts with Cross-Curricular Content

Use real-world materials—newspaper economics articles, local history accounts, or scientist biographies—as objects of linguistic study (vocabulary, stylistics, discourse structure).

4. Role-Play and Simulations

Simulate professional situations (press conferences, interviews with a scientist, environmental debates) where students must use Russian to accomplish “real” tasks informed by biology, social studies, etc.

5. ICT-Enhanced Activities

Develop multimedia presentations, videos, blogs, or podcasts that require collecting, synthesizing, and linguistically framing information from diverse sources.

3. Sample Lesson Designs

Lesson No.	Topic	Cross-Curricular Link	Core Task
1	“Narrative Styles”	History (Eyewitness Accounts)	Analyze first-person excerpts from historical witnesses
2	“Language and Imagery”	Visual Arts	Compose a descriptive text accompanying a work of art
3	“Thesis and Argumentation in Texts”	Social Studies	Prepare a mini-report on a current social issue
4	“Technical Terminology and Norms”	Biology	Create a glossary of botanical terms from a regional flora text
5	“Dialogue as a Genre”	Geography (Tourism)	Role-play a conversation between a tourist and a guide

4. Effectiveness and Assessment

- Depth of Interdisciplinarity: Projects are evaluated on how effectively students integrate linguistic analysis with factual content from other subjects.
- Development of ULAs: Assessment focuses on students’ information-handling skills, problem formulation, argumentation structure, and presentation of findings.
- Reflective Practice: Learners write short self-

assessments describing new connections they discovered and how cross-disciplinary knowledge deepened their understanding of language concepts.

CONCLUSION

Integrating interdisciplinary connections into Russian language lessons cultivates students’ holistic worldview, enriches their communicative abilities, and prepares them for autonomous inquiry. With thoughtful methodological design, this approach elevates motivation, deepens linguistic insight, and equips learners to navigate complex, real-world

problems.

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