

*N.Bulhakova, D.Sc.in Pedagogics,
T.Dovgodko, Ph.D.in Pedagogics,
N.Vasylyshyna, Ph.D. in Pedagogics
(National Aviation University, Ukraine*

Contemporary Approaches of Foreign Students Propaedeutic Preparation

The paper under consideration deals with the urgent issue of mastering professional competence of foreign students in the high establishments. The necessity, the specific role and some propaedeutical (pre-university) problems of foreign students training to study at the Technical University of Ukraine have been analyzed on the theoretical as well as on the practical levels.

Training of foreign students in higher educational institutions of Ukraine is a process that differs in certain specific and is in direct proportion to the propaedeutic training that is undertaken at the preparatory faculty (PF) for foreign nationals. The feature of the first-year foreign nationals is that having received education in their home country, they should be for one academic year to learn the language of general subjects to the extent that allows them to continue getting a higher education in high institution of Ukraine.

Sustainable development and operation of propaedeutic training in modern conditions involves clarifying its role and goals, as well as focusing on the formation of its content. Propaedeutic training, which is one of the steps of a continuous system of higher education, has its specific features that determine the activities of preparatory departments. It is important to point that a foreign citizen arrives to study in the condition of stress and tension, so it is necessary to create such psychological and pedagogical conditions for him, in which he is able to take an active position and modify to the subject of learning from a passive observer. This is exactly one of the main peculiarities of propaedeutic study at the university. As a result, learner's role in modern terms can be expressed as the transformation of acquired knowledge and skills into shaping of the mental personality traits, ensuring the successful continuation of studies at the university.

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system of higher education, has its specific features that determine the activities preparatory schools. Please note that a foreign citizen coming to study in stress and tension, so it is necessary to create such psychological and pedagogical conditions in which he is able to take an active position and a passive observer as the subject to reveal learning. This is one of the main differences propaedeutic study at university. Hence its role in modern terms can imagine the transformation of acquired knowledge and skills in shaping the mental personality traits, ensuring the successful continuation of studies at the university.

In order to convert previously obtained knowledge, to develop new skills, it is necessary to present a propaedeutic study of foreign students as an integrated, completed pedagogical process, technology of which should be distinguished as:

- goal-setting, clear system of subordinate objectives;
- a problem of common result and the particular results for each goals;
- forecasting, predictability of results;
- variation in methods of learning process;
- the possibility of individual learning process in tempo, the level of difficulty of mastering the information that is ensuring the personal zone of proximal development;
- constant that does not hurt the student's feedback of the correcting nature.

General propaedeutic studying of foreign students can be seen as converting of the acquired knowledge and skills on the basis of psychological, national personality traits, personal orientation in the environment, that grants the successful prolongation of studies at the university.

Prerequisite conditions of quality learning with regard to general subjects by representatives from different regions of the world are mentality, psychological condition and other characteristics of their national identity, because psychological difficulties are important as well as meaningful, language, teaching and organizational ones. Consideration, forecasting and planning of aforementioned problems allow to formulate objectively, vary educational goals and develop a strategy to solve them for foreign citizens arriving to the social environment, that is a set of social and (or) social environmental conditions, circumstances, situations that affect their behavior. Applying such terms, social environment can be viewed at the macro and micro levels.

Macro one is a new country, city, living conditions. Micro is a limited educational process and the community, that is, preparatory department for foreign citizens – a kind of social environment (society), which has its integrated structure and is determined with the appropriate social teaching settings. Hence, the primary area of socialization occurs through psychological mechanisms which, in turn, have an individual character and depend on the regional characteristics of the student. So, it is important to remember that with the arrival every newcomer student overcomes through social adaptation: the process of active personal adaptation to changes in the environment in different ways. In fact, at this initial moment, the role of preparatory faculty teacher is to assist the foreign citizen to enter a new macro and microenvironment, because they have different kinds of adaptation: biomedical (to the climate, food, time zone, environmental factors); adaptation to all components of the educational system: information and worldview (teaching disciplines,

organizational forms and methods of educational activity) and psycho-pedagogical (educational group, to its social and psychological climate, to monitoring system, self-preparation); socio-cultural (to other cultures); communication (all types of communication).

It is believed that during any adaptation genetically determined resources of the body are activated. For example, climate change is a very serious irritant to humans, which often leads to exacerbation of chronic diseases, high blood pressure, headaches, sleep disorders. In sharp fluctuations in air temperature, atmospheric pressure (increase or decrease) the person may experience deterioration of psychological state (mood variations, discomfort, apathy, depression).

At the stage of pre-university training, international students must adapt to the special factor, which is a learning process, because the education is the main goal of the foreigners arrived into the Ukrainian universities. Adaptations to foreign nationals of high school at the stage of pre-university training - is adapting to the new educational system components: information and ideological, psychological and pedagogical. This adaptation is happened under the influence of certain expectations on the part of preparatory faculty lecturers as well as foreign students.

In the first year, the state of concern, tension, sometimes fear and anxiety is typical for them. They are experiencing a state of emotional and psychological stress, accompanied with the state of anxiety (the human condition, characterized by subjectively experienced emotional stress, anxiety, concern, nervousness, frustration, anticipation of something evil). This is a relatively stable individual feature that provides insight into the human propensity to anxiety: his tendency to perceive a wide range of situations as threatening ones and react to them as different levels of anxiety.

High Performance anxiety measures are typical for novice students during initially study at PF, and are especially expressed among African, Arab and Asian students. Usually, people with false self-evaluation (low or too high), are closed in themselves, who often feel uncomfortable in the group who are considered as a highly anxious student. These people need special attention and caution in setting goals and objectives of their activities. Working with such students, it is undesirable, as the prevention, to emphasize extra time on the importance of results or constantly target them to good results.

To adjust the mental state of students, who come to study, equilibrium theory is of the interest, that is based on the emotional reinforcement of the favorable psychological climate groups and individual students. If positive attitude and Carnegie thesis "desire to show" is followed during studying, it helps to eliminate destructive factors in learning, allows to react to any students' reactions in a proper way, stimulates the development of their personal qualities.

It should be noted that the term "mental state" is a generic description of the emotional, cognitive and behavioral aspects of the psyche of the subject in a certain period of time. Mental states include displays of affection (mood, emotions, anxiety, euphoria, etc.), attention (concentration, distraction), will determination, confusion), imagination (dreams) and others. The mental state is determined by external factors impact, human well-being, his individual psychological characteristics. Sometimes quite minor factors can affect at the deteriorating mental state of the student in class,

particularly if the teacher during class often looks at some of the students and pays less attention to others (and they can sit in the audience side), that could cause an offense.

Long-term observations of the mental state of students in the classroom in different regions showed sharp differences between African countries, Southeast Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. Formed ability to control your mood, find ways to conscious correction is more typical for students from Vietnam, China, India, Bangladesh, Nepal. On the contrary, very frequent mood swings, that are typical for members of the Middle East, Africa, can have pathological origin and can be conditioned by such properties as increased anxiety, instability, emotionality. It should also be noted that in the preparatory faculty of natural sciences studying, compared with the first course of high school, students are taught in small groups (12-16 people). The small group - a group in which social relations are in the form of direct personal contacts. Signs of such groups are: cooperation and mutual understanding; pursuit of common purpose; rise and assertion of group consciousness, rights, customs and habits.

We also should point out that ethnic study groups, that established in the pension fund have the following features: direct contact between its members, interpersonal interaction and mutual influence; common goals, activities, feelings; attention and common interests, motivations and attitudes, values and norms, rights and group roles; specific localization in space and time known as resistance.

Interpersonal relationships in the group and compatibility of its members create a psychological climate that is more the result of cooperation than the compatibility. Cooperation satisfaction from the activity arises with interpersonal relationships, while compatibility is mainly content through communication.

Ethnic study groups psychological climate is being created for a more or less long period (week, month), and effects on the emotional state. The emotional state produces mood that creates a psychological atmosphere. The main factors that contribute to a heightened state of anxiety in the study group are: 1) students belonging to the same country; 2) psychological incompatibility of foreign students; 3) lack of proper contact with teachers.

Integral characteristic of the unity degree and homogeneity, which can serve as an indicator of the frequency or degree of opinions coincidence, estimates with respect to the objects (people, events), which is the most significant for the group as a whole. A small group is characterized by common values, rules of conduct, common interests.

The systematic study of foreign students' mental and regional features gave the possibility to develop a strategy for managing the educational process at the preparatory faculty. The survey showed that the greatest assistance and support in adjusting to life and study in the first year for beginner-students is provided by the compatriots (50%), teachers' pension fund (40%) and employees of the dean (10%).

Thus, in order to make foreign students' adaptation successful, the educational environment should create interpersonal interaction and mutual understanding between teachers as well as students; students, beginners and seniors; students in the group at the faculty that represent different countries and cultures.