WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF ENGLISH TEACHING?

Over the past three decades there has been a significant change in foreign language methodologies and materials. Many foreign language teachers have already responded to their students' needs by implementing innovative methods and materials that encourage creative self-expression and by not insisting on error free communication.

How will language teaching be developing? Several directions can be predicted:

- 1) A rapid increase in the use of educational technology, especially videodiscs, computer-assisted instruction, and multimedia learning packages, leads to high specialization and sharp differentiation in teaching tasks. The purpose of English would be to provide an environment in which students could prepare for jobs or further education.
- 2) Institutions of higher education have increasingly embraced online education, and the number of students enrolled in distance programs is rapidly rising in colleges and universities throughout the world.
- 3) Employment patterns are constantly changing, enjoyment of one's leisure and the acceptance of material affluence as a way of life become the main goals of learning. The task of English teachers would be to encourage reading and writing for pleasure, to teach on the basis of interest of students so that they would develop personal preferences.
- 4) Rising of critical consciousness of learners would define the role of the teacher as critic and prophet. Students would view academic excellence as a goal for practical reasons. Communication skills would be stressed as tools for social intervention [1].

References:

1. Catchpole, M.J. Classroom, open and distance teaching: A faculty view. The American Journal of Distance Education, 1999, 6(3), - P. 34-44.