



## USING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES IN SHAPING STUDENTS' INFORMATION LITERACY

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### ABSTRACT

This article explores the use of digital technologies in the process of developing students' information competence. Digital technologies, especially the internet and information and communication tools, create convenient opportunities for searching, analyzing, and effectively utilizing information in the educational process. Today, the widespread use of digital resources, online platforms, and educational software in the field of education helps enrich students' knowledge and develop their skills in working with information. The article analyzes the application of information technologies in the educational process and their impact on enhancing students' information competence. In addition, it highlights methods for developing students' critical thinking, information analysis, and effective use of technologies based on digital tools. The goal of this research is to demonstrate the advantages of effectively forming students' information competence using digital technologies and to propose solutions to challenges in this area.

### KEYWORDS

Information competence, digital technologies, digital resources, online platforms.

### INTRODUCTION

Today, digital technologies have penetrated all areas of our lives and are bringing significant changes to the educational process. Developing students' skills in working with information, teaching them critical

thinking, and providing quick and reliable access to information sources through modern technologies are some of the main goals of contemporary education. Developing information competence ensures that students acquire skills in searching, analyzing,



evaluating, and effectively using information during the educational process. The importance of digital technologies in achieving this goal is continuously increasing.

The current state of the education system is characterized by the growing role of non-traditional educational technologies. With their help, the process of acquiring knowledge is much faster than with traditional methods. These technologies change the nature of knowledge development, acquisition, and distribution, enabling the deepening and broadening of the content of the subjects studied, quick updates, the application of more effective teaching methods, and significantly expanding access to education for everyone.

When answering the question "What is digital technology?" we can say the following:

It is a modern form of management in which a large set of data in digital form and the process of its processing serve as the main factors in production and management. Using the results in practice allows us to achieve traditional efficiency. Examples include various automated production processes, 3D technologies, cloud technologies, remote medical services, growing and delivering products, storing various goods, and selling them. In this article, we will focus on the digitalization of the education system.

With the help of digital technologies, students gain access to global information resources, broadening their knowledge base and developing their ability to make information-based decisions. As stated in the book *Educational Research: Planning, Conducting, and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research* by John W. Creswell, digital technologies in education are not only tools for distributing information but also serve as crucial factors in developing students' skills in analyzing and understanding information. These

processes have distinct advantages and challenges in using modern technologies, which necessitates the need to explore them in depth and develop effective methods to enhance students' information competence. Thus, this article is aimed at analyzing the role of digital technologies in shaping students' information competence and their impact on the educational process.

### DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

Through digital technologies, the methods of education are becoming easier for learners. In this context, multimedia, overhead projectors, computers, laptops, internet-connected televisions, telephone lines, smartboards, and projectors play the role of educational tools. For educators, using these tools in lessons ensures the improvement of teaching quality. It is well-known that the use of digital technologies in online classes yields positive results. For example, online classes broadcasted via television can be considered a form of digital education.

Thus, in digital education:

Learners have the opportunity to study anytime and anywhere;

The culture of acquiring and using information from the internet is developed;

The education system is elevated to a new level;

It significantly reduces time and financial costs;

Learners have an advantage in the "digital world," preventing them from being left behind and helping them find better job opportunities, among other benefits.

The establishment of Wi-Fi zones and IT parks plays a significant role in the advancement of the digital education system. It creates the opportunity to enhance educators' ability to work with digital



technologies and organize various open courses online. This, in turn, encourages educators to work more on themselves and, due to competition, further improves the quality of education.

Additionally, digital technologies contribute to the implementation of artificial intelligence technologies, such as detecting cases of tax evasion, preventing fraud, analyzing data, automating repetitive processes, and increasing transparency. Furthermore, big data enables the storage, processing, and better forecasting of large volumes of data received by tax authorities, as well as improving document exchange between taxpayers and tax authorities.

Let's consider the following points on how to effectively use digital technologies in shaping information literacy.

1. **Utilization of Digital Resources:** To develop students' skills in information searching and analysis, it is essential to use digital libraries, academic article databases, online information resources, and e-books. For example, platforms such as Google Scholar, JSTOR, and ResearchGate allow students to access scholarly information. This enhances their research abilities, source selection, and analytical skills.

2. **Interactive Teaching and Multimedia Tools:** By utilizing digital technologies, teachers can conduct interactive lessons and explain topics through videos, animations, simulations, and other multimedia tools. This method enhances the quality of education and makes the learning process more engaging for students, as they not only study textual information but also work with visual and audiovisual materials.

3. **Online Courses and MOOCs:** Through Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) platforms, such as Coursera, edX, Udemy, and others, students can acquire knowledge in various fields. These platforms provide opportunities for students to strengthen their skills,

acquire new knowledge, and engage in personal development. Additionally, online courses allow students to explore topics that are relevant and interesting to them.

4. **Collaborative Tools and Cloud Technologies:** Students can use collaborative tools such as Google Docs, Microsoft 365, Trello, and Slack to work on group projects. These tools enable teamwork, facilitate idea exchange, and support project development. This, in turn, improves students' information-sharing abilities and critical thinking skills.

5. **Critical Thinking and Analysis:** Digital technologies can also be used to teach students critical thinking. For example, students should learn to analyze online information, identify misinformation, and distinguish between reliable and unreliable sources. These skills help them use information effectively and accurately.

6. **Monitoring and Assessment:** Teachers can use digital tools to conduct quizzes, surveys, and tests to assess and track students' knowledge. Tools like Quizlet, Kahoot!, or Google Forms can be used to evaluate students' understanding, identify areas of weakness, and make the necessary adjustments to improve their learning.

7. **Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning:** Using digital technologies like artificial intelligence and machine learning, students can be supported in quickly analyzing information, taking automated tests, or receiving personalized recommendations. These technologies help students test and enhance their knowledge.

## CONCLUSION

In this way, digital technologies not only contribute to developing students' information literacy but also assist teachers in applying effective and innovative teaching methods. They have become an integral part



of modern education, creating new learning opportunities for students.

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