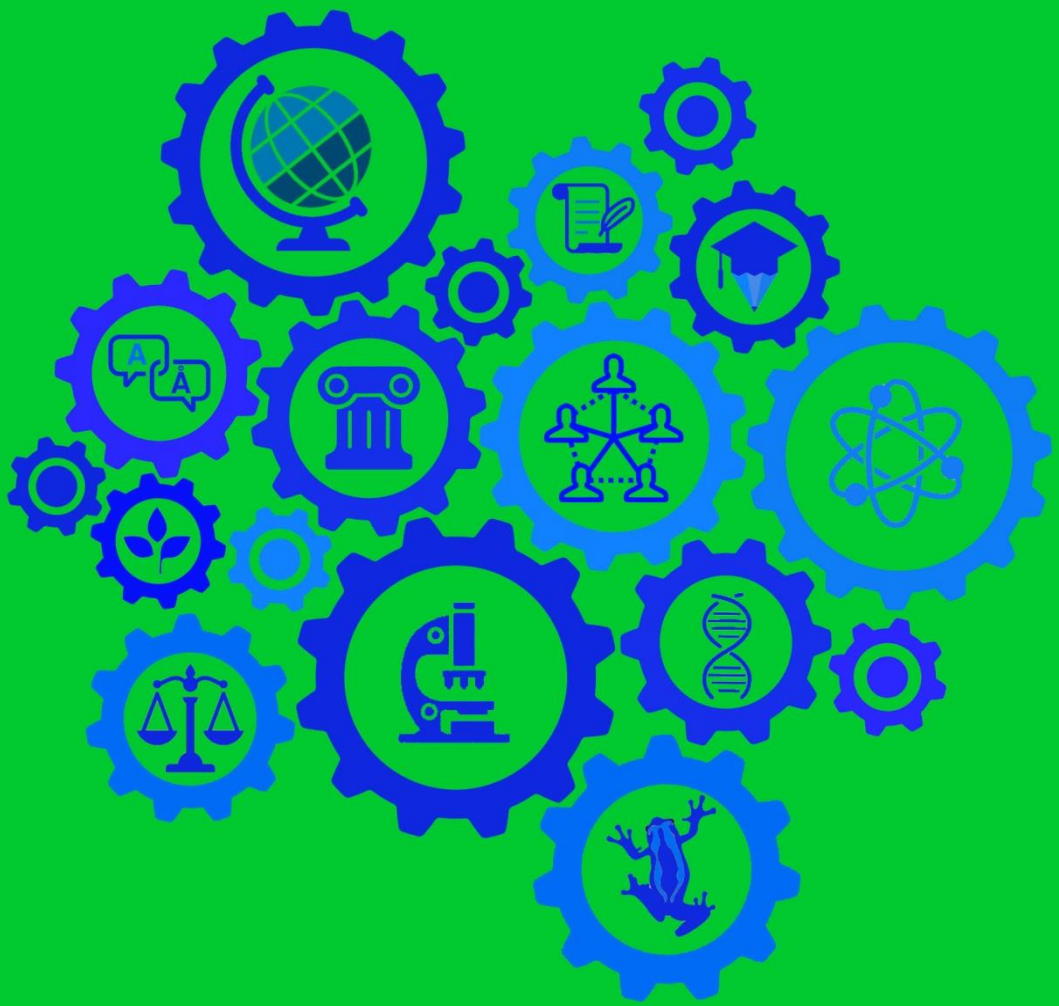
IMPACT FACTOR (UIF): 8.47
IMPACT FACTOR (SJIF): 8.47

ISSN: 2249-9822

TJE

Thematics Journal of Education

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TJE - Thematic journal of Education
ISSN 2249-9822
Vol-8-Issue Q1- 2024
http://thematicsjournals.in/index.php/tje
researchbib impact factor 8-2024

THE CURRENT STATUS AND PROSPECTS OF DEVELOPING STUDENTS' INDEPENDENT LEARNING SKILLS

Uchkurova Shakhnoza Shavkatovna

PhD student of Tashkent State Pedagogical University named after Nizami

Uzbekistan

Abstract This article examines the current status of independent learning skills development in students, particularly in higher education contexts. It highlights the increasing need for fostering autonomy in learning due to the growing emphasis on lifelong learning and self-directed education in today's knowledge-driven society. The study provides an analysis of current pedagogical approaches and the integration of digital tools that support independent learning. It identifies challenges faced by educators and students, including insufficient guidance, lack of motivation, and limited access to effective resources. Additionally, the article explores prospects, including the potential of personalized learning environments, adaptive technologies, and digital content to enhance independent learning capacities. The discussion also includes how educational institutions can leverage Open Educational Resources (OER), blended learning models, and feedback mechanisms to promote self-regulation and active participation among learners. The article concludes with recommendations for improving educational strategies to cultivate independent learning skills, which are essential for both academic success and professional development in an ever-evolving global landscape.

Keywords: independent learning skills, self-regulated learning, autonomous learning, digital learning environments, educational digital content, higher education, active learning strategies, student-centered learning, self-assessment techniques, e-learning tools

INTRODUCTION

In today’s rapidly changing educational landscape, the ability to learn independently has become increasingly vital for students. Independent learning skills empower learners to take control of their education, fostering critical thinking, problem-solving abilities, and a lifelong love for learning. As traditional pedagogical approaches evolve, educators and researchers are exploring innovative strategies to cultivate these skills within diverse learning environments.

While advancements in technology and access to educational resources have provided students with numerous opportunities for self-directed learning, many still struggle with effectively harnessing these tools. Factors such as varying levels of motivation, guidance, and support play significant roles in shaping students' ability to learn independently. Furthermore, cultural attitudes toward education and learning can impact students' perceptions of their roles as active participants in the learning process.

Looking ahead, the prospects for developing independent learning skills appear promising. The integration of digital technologies, such as online learning platforms and educational apps, offers new avenues for fostering self-directed learning. Additionally, the growing emphasis on personalized learning experiences aligns with the need to equip students with the skills necessary for academic success and adaptability in an increasingly complex world. This article will explore the current landscape of independent learning skills, identify key challenges and opportunities, and propose effective strategies for enhancing these essential competencies in students. Today, all areas of New Uzbekistan have become a field of deep reforms and serious changes, and practical work is being carried out to organize all stages of the education system in our country based on modern requirements. Preparing the growing young generation for life, and implementing the goals and tasks put forward by society in the field of education and upbringing is unthinkable without the education system. The educational system is being formed step by step.

Reforms carried out in the education system of our republic, one of the tasks of higher education is to prepare the future expert for self-development, to improve the potential for independent learning, and to use innovative activities on a large scale. requires. Of course, only the knowledge given by the teacher will not be enough to carry out the assigned task. For this reason, special attention is paid to students' independent learning based on the organization of independent work.

Eliminating the problems of improving the mechanisms of developing organizational abilities of students in independent education in the educational process of higher education institutions has become an urgent issue. Therefore, the law "on education" shows the system of training of independent thinking, highly intellectual, experienced specialists.[1]

In particular, the systematic solution of problems in the educational process, the recognition of foreign language learning as a priority direction of the educational policy, the improvement of the process of training students, and the continuous quality level of foreign language teaching based on educational digital content. To gradually increase and assimilate the requirements corresponding to world standards, legal and regulatory frameworks have been developed in our republic. Decree No. PF-5712 dated April 29, 2019 "On approval of the concept of development of the public education system of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2030", Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 10, 2012 "Learning foreign languages on measures to further improve the system" Decision No. PQ-1875 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated May 8, 2013 "Approval of the state education standard for foreign languages of the continuing education system on" Resolution No. 124 and Resolution No. 824 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 31, 2020 "On measures to improve the system related to the organization of the educational process in higher education institutions", Decree No. PF-5847 of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated October 8, 2019 "On approval of the concept of development of the higher education system of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2030" and PQ-178 of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated May 15, 2024 based on decisions on creating additional conditions for young people to learn digital technologies and foreign languages in the context of the decision no. analyzing the documents, it can be said that legal documents are important in the educational process.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Thinking or being able to think is considered the highest form of a student's mental activity, intelligence, behavior, and conscious behavior.

The concept of "independent education" is defined in pedagogical dictionaries as a type of education acquired based on independent learning, outside of the educational institution. At the moment, the concepts of "independent education", "self-education", "independent study", and "autonomous education" are used as synonyms.

Educator and linguist F.A. Disterweg, while analyzing the idea of developing students' mental powers, expressed the following thoughts: "Development and education are not given to anyone and cannot be delivered. Everyone needs to achieve this through personal activity. A person is not considered his own, as he does not have it independently".[2]

"The training of thinking is the most necessary, sacred duty that has been assigned to the attention and conscience of teachers since time immemorial," said our great thinker Abdulla Avloni in his work "Turkish Gulistan and Ethics". In this, the thinker expressed that the formation and development of people's thinking ability is the most important and necessary task. Education has long been regarded as a destiny or a dream, that is, it has been a constant desire for the development of society and humanity. It was emphasized that this task is entrusted to the responsibility of teachers, and it is a sacred task that requires their conscience and attention. In terms of content, it is a very important task for teachers not only to impart knowledge in the educational process but also to develop the thinking of students.

Organizing the development of students' independent learning skills requires taking into account their unique qualities. The principles of the independent approach of didactics express the characteristics of the information learned by students, which affect the educational activity depending on the learning results. These characteristics

may include the expression of a person's state, physical and mental characteristics: all aspects of memory and thought processes, characteristics of the nervous system, degrees of freedom and character, abilities, and innate abilities. The academic success of students is influenced by various social issues, including the student's family, home, and external influences. Personal qualities of students, several internal and external factors affect the educational process to a certain extent.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Students who actively work independently in the process of acquiring concepts and knowledge related to science topics in the educational process achieve successful results. According to the study of the isolation (individualization) stage of the educational process, two types of isolated approaches can be recognized based on the characteristics of the person we are referring to. They allow for the isolation of teaching, taking into account the complexity of the many characteristics or idiosyncrasies of the student. Scientists have highlighted the problems of individualization arising from the complexity of students' knowledge, talents, and skills in many researches works on this topic. The development of students' independent learning skills is a multifaceted field that has attracted the attention of researchers around the world. For example, David Bowd and Nancy Falchikov focus on self-assessment as a crucial part of developing independent learning. D. Boud and N. Falchikov say "The ability of students to evaluate their own work and educational processes helps them self-regulate, and provides more independence in education." they emphasize. They also believe that reflective practices help learners identify areas for improvement and plan learning strategies accordingly.[3]

According to G.R.Agzamkhanova and Sh.D.Razakova, "A personal approach is important in organizing students' independent educational activities. It is necessary to teach the forms, methods and means of finding and mastering the necessary information for students to acquire independent knowledge. In this case, the importance of a personal approach to the effective organization of independent

educational activities in the development of independent learning skills of students is expressed uniquely, and the needs, abilities, learning styles, and characteristics of the learning process of each student are taken into account. Through this process, it is necessary to teach students the skills of finding, mastering, and using the necessary information independently.[4]

Therefore, a personal approach to the development of students' independent learning skills increases their responsibility, develops analytical and creative abilities, and requires the use of flexible learning methods and self-control.

American pedagogue researcher, and supporter of education reform L.D. Hammond studied the importance of professional training and professional development of teachers in the development of independent learning skills among students. He noted that effective teaching practices such as collaborative learning and project-based learning allow students to take control of their learning.[5]

Professional training and professional development of teachers is very important in the development of independent learning skills.

According to Sh.N. Muslimov, "teachers learn new pedagogical technologies and methods and use them in practice to make the educational process more interesting and effective."[6] In general, these approaches show the role and importance of teachers in developing independent learning skills among learners. The training, competence, and use of modern pedagogical methods of teachers in the development of independent learning skills is the demand of the time.

Despite the analysis of different approaches to the nature of students' autonomous acquisition of knowledge and skills, a clear explanation of this concept has not been revealed. The acquisition of knowledge as a structure arises from the complexity and uncertainty of the connection between perception, thinking, thinking, and behavior.[7]

Teaching independent thinking, and having an independent worldview is the main part of independent education. Many psychological scientists, in particular, Lev

Semyonovich Vygotsky, Alexey Nikolaevich Leontev, Alexander Romanovich Luria, Daniel Borisovich Elkonin, Galina Anatolevna Zukerman, and others have conducted research on issues related to independent thinking.

Lev Semyonovich Vygotsky's theories of the Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD) and social constructivism emphasize the importance of social interaction in education. Vygotsky's research recognizes how students can use independent learning skills to go beyond their current capabilities through the concept of scaffolding and guided interaction. The concept of "scaffolding" is an instructional practice that removes teacher guidance and group management from independent learning as students learn independently and become more proficient. The theory is that if students are given meaningful guidance in learning something new, they will be able to use that knowledge independently.[8]

Alexey Nikolaevich Leontev further developed the theory of cultural-historical activity and studied the role of cultural-historical activity in education and development. The research emphasizes the importance of goal-directed actions in the development of cognitive functions, which is essential for understanding how independent learning skills can be developed. His theories support the notion that language learning is an active and self-regulating process.[9]

Alexander Romanovich Luria, a neurologist, and psychologist, in his research work provides an understanding of the role of the brain in language learning and thinking, and how to adapt to individual cognitive strengths and weaknesses in the acquisition of independent learning skills.[10]

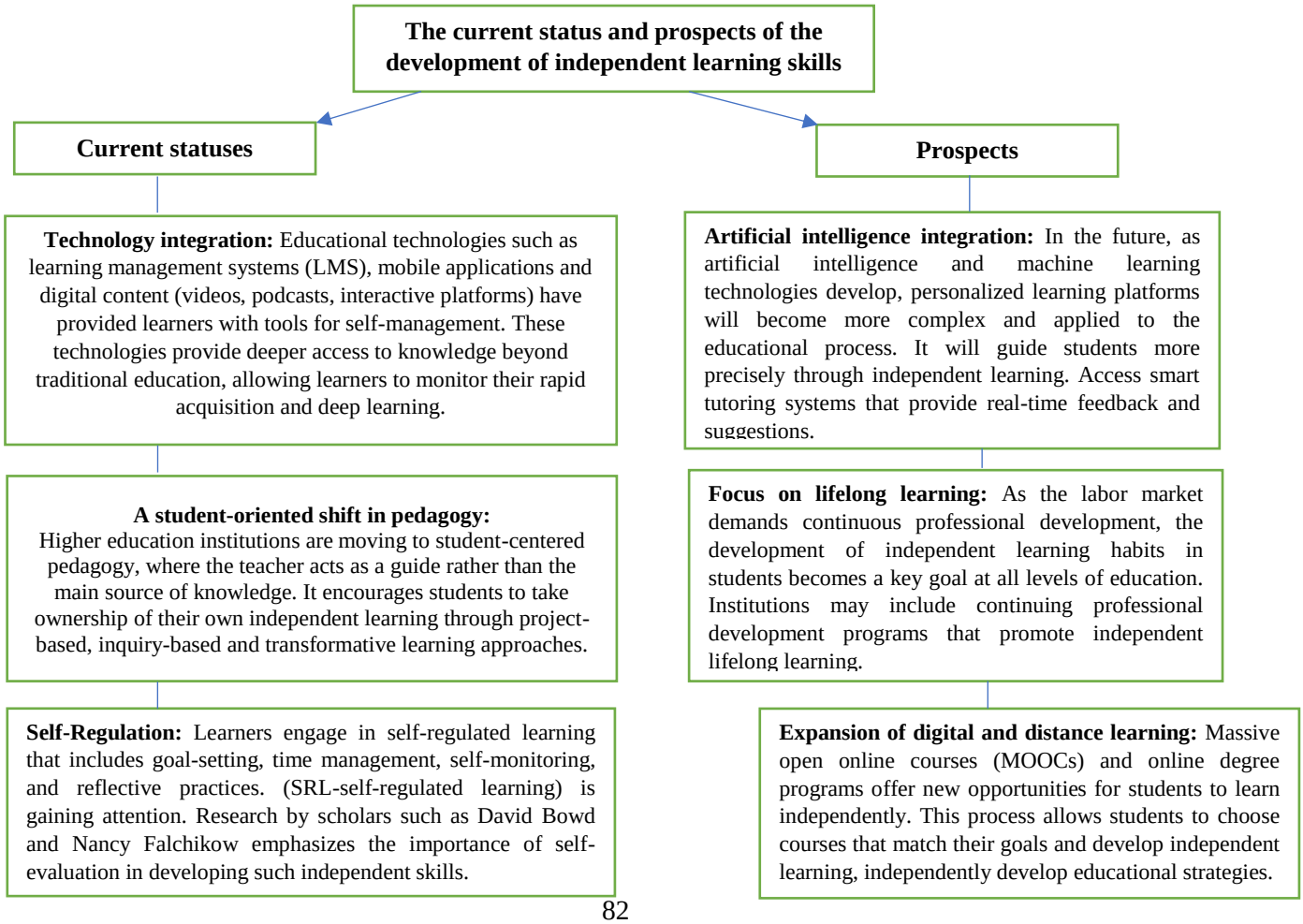
Daniel Borisovich Elkonin is a Russian psychologist whose research has had a significant impact on developmental psychology and educational theory. He developed innovative methods to enhance independent learning by structuring activities that develop cognitive and speech skills. In Elkonin's opinion, "Teachers can create an interesting and effective educational environment for the development of independent learning skills by conducting lessons in a playful way."[11] Her

research supports the idea that through structured play, learners can develop the ability to manage their learning, set goals, and reflect on their development. All these are important components of self-management.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Developing students' independent learning skills is increasingly important in modern education, especially due to the rise of technology-enhanced education and the need for lifelong learning in rapidly evolving labor markets. Below we have analyzed the current situation and prospects for the development of independent learning skills. (1st table.)

The development of independent learning skills is evolving along with technologies and new pedagogical approaches in today's educational demands. In the future, artificial intelligence and educational digital platforms will further improve this process, which will help students learn independently and responsibly.



Personalized learning paths: Students of higher education institutions are using educational digital content to adapt learning paths based on independent learning needs and abilities in the development of independent learning. Educational digital content is often used to assess independent learning development and offer resources that encourage independent decision-making in independent learning.	**Competency-Based Learning:** A competency-based learning approach emphasizes that students learn independent learning skills at their own pace. This reinforces the need for independent learning, as students identify gaps in their knowledge and seek ways to overcome them without relying on teachers. This encourages students to be responsible and
Assessment Reforms: Traditional forms of assessment, such as exams, are giving way to more formative and self-assessment practices where students assess their own learning achievements and outcomes. It develops metacognitive awareness and critical thinking.	**Development of programming skills:** Critical thinking, problem solving, and effective communication are developed based on programming skills that are important for students in future education. These skills strengthen the ability to learn independently.
Use of digital content: Research is being conducted on the theory and methodology of introducing digital content into the educational process in the higher education system of Uzbekistan. It allows learners to engage in independent research and learning materials that help them develop skills.	**Global Research and Innovation:** New innovative methodologies will be developed to develop independent learning skills in future teaching and learning.

Table 1. The current situation and prospects for the development of independent learning skills.

Every learner has their own learning pace. Independent study allows students to devote more time to difficult areas of knowledge and less time to easy areas of knowledge. This personalized approach ensures that speaking skills develop at a pace that matches the needs of the individual learner.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the development of independent learning skills among students is a vital component of modern education, reflecting the need for learners to navigate an increasingly complex and dynamic world. Current trends indicate a growing recognition of the importance of fostering these skills, with educational institutions implementing innovative strategies and digital resources that empower students to take charge of their learning processes. However, significant challenges remain, including the need for adequate training of educators, the integration of technology in a meaningful way, and the promotion of a supportive learning environment that

encourages self-directed study. As we move forward, continuous research and development will be essential to refine approaches that nurture students' autonomy and enhance their learning experiences.

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