

4. A small wind turbine was developed as a demonstration product, clearly illustrating the economic significance of wind energy and its contribution to sustainable development.

5. Key barriers and opportunities for further development of wind energy in Belarus were identified.

К. Karaseva

К. В. Карасёва

ГУО «Гимназия № 25 имени Риммы Шершнёвой г. Минска»

Научный руководитель Н. В. Протопович

CREATIVE WRITING THROUGH VISUAL LITERACY

Визуальная грамотность как средство развития умений творческого письма

Writing is becoming an increasingly important skill in today's world. Learners of English as a foreign language use the written word to communicate in both social and academic contexts. Good writing skills are beneficial for learners of English, as they encourage language development at all levels: grammar, vocabulary and discourse. Writing is no longer just about words. Nowadays it has become a process of shaping words and images into a coherent message.

Unfortunately, writing is often a challenge for learners of English as a foreign language and may cause serious problems. According to the results of the initial survey over a half of gymnasium students are unable to generate ideas and cannot choose an interesting topic (fig. 1).

Choose 5 problems you think may prevent you from writing a successful essay.

 Copy chart

73 responses

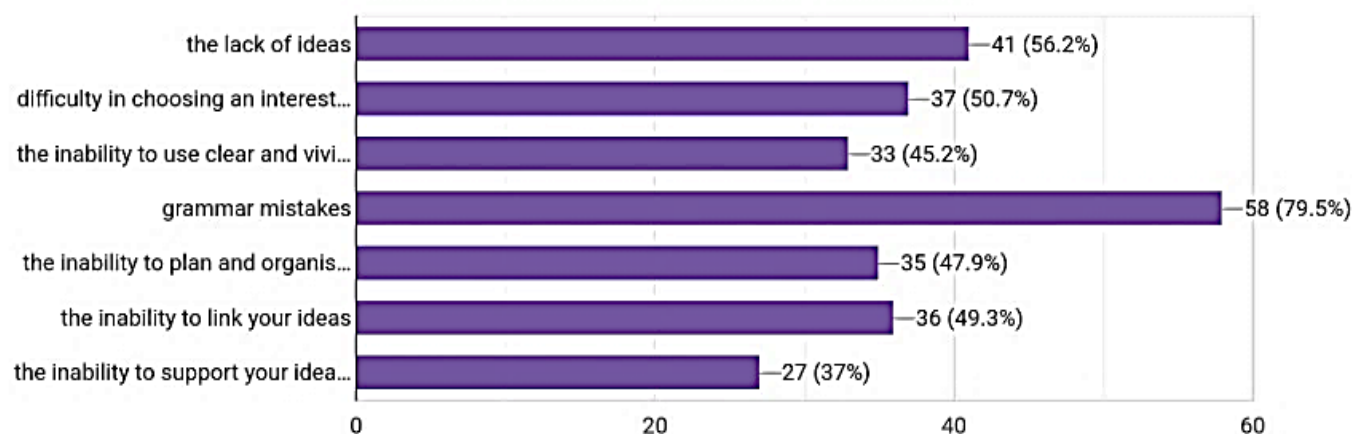


Fig. 1. The results of the questionnaire

Writing an essay, however, may not be so hard work if in search for creative ideas we read and interpret visual images. In today's fast-moving world of digital technology we are surrounded by visual information and multimodal texts. A complex idea can be communicated by a single image. From what has been expounded above, **the hypothesis of the given scientific** work consists in proving that visual literacy can assist writers in generating ideas as well as communicating the ideas to others in the form of an essay.

In order to prove the hypothesis of our research the experiment has been conducted. The students of the 9th and 11th forms were given the essay topic «Promoting Belarusian traditions and crafts among young people» and asked to analyse visual texts working with the handout «Traditional Belarus» based on the results of our research. The experiment group was also asked to play the visual game «Guess the object» to develop their critical thinking skills, and evoke interest in the topic. The game «Guess the object» consists of 18 slides and includes 7 historical objects of the Belarusian History and Local History Museum located in Gymnasium № 25 named after Rimma Shershneva (fig. 2).



Fig. 2. The interactive visual game «Guess the Object»

After critical analysis of the visual texts, the students were asked to return to the topic «Promoting Belarusian traditions and crafts among young people» and list the ideas visuals helped them generate. The summary of the research carried out in the given scientific work allows us to come to the main conclusions:

- Visual literacy, the ability to interpret and understand visual texts, is an important life skill.
- The process of analysing visuals is motivating and develops students' critical thinking skills. Visual images arouse students' interest of the topic, encourage their creativity and original thinking.

Thus, the research conducted in this scientific work proves that the process of reading and analysing visual images can help learners generate ideas and communicate them to others in the form of an essay.