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their legal French competently in professional settings. As the demand for Legal French continues to grow among international students, innovative and targeted teaching methods will be essential for meeting learners' needs and preparing them for success in their careers.

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### TEACHING FRENCH LANGUAGE TO SPORTS STUDENTS: CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIES

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## Annotation:

The article explores the unique difficulties and solutions involved in teaching French to athletes. Sports students face challenges such as time constraints due to training schedules, physical and mental fatigue, and varied language skill levels. To address these, the article suggests flexible and adaptable programs that incorporate sports-specific content and practical language use, aligning lessons with the athletes' routines and needs. It also highlights the importance of using active learning techniques, like integrating physical movement, to maintain engagement. Furthermore, it discusses the need for specialized instructor training and cultural integration to ensure athletes can effectively communicate in French within their sports environments. The article ultimately emphasizes creating motivating and relevant language programs to help sports students develop their language skills efficiently while enhancing their sports careers.

Key words: french language teaching, linguistic needs in sports, flexible language programs, language acquisition strategies, sports-specific content

#### Annotatsiya:

Maqolada sportchilarga frantsuz tilini oʻrgatish bilan bogʻliq noyob qiyinchiliklar va yechimlar oʻrganiladi. Sport oʻquvchilari mashgʻulotlar jadvali, jismoniy va ruhiy charchoq va turli xil til mahorati darajasi tufayli vaqt cheklovlari kabi qiyinchiliklarga duch kelishadi. Bularni hal qilish uchun maqolada sportga xos tarkib va amaliy tildan foydalanishni oʻz ichiga olgan, darslarni sportchilarning mashgʻulotlari va ehtiyojlariga moslashtiruvchi moslashuvchan va moslashuvchan dasturlar taklif etiladi. Shuningdek, u mashgʻulotlarni davom ettirish uchun jismoniy harakatni birlashtirish kabi faol oʻrganish usullaridan foydalanish muhimligini ta'kidlaydi. Bundan tashqari, u sportchilarning sport muhitida frantsuz tilida samarali muloqot qilishlarini ta'minlash uchun maxsus oʻqituvchilar tayyorlash va madaniy integratsiya zarurligini muhokama qiladi. Maqolada sport oʻquvchilarining sport kareralarini oshirishda til koʻnikmalarini samarali rivojlantirishga yordam beradigan motivatsion va tegishli til dasturlarini yaratishga urgʻu beriladi.

Kalit soʻzlar: fransuz tilini oʻrgatish, sportdagi lingvistik ehtiyojlar, moslashuvchan til dasturlari, tilni oʻzlashtirish strategiyalari, sportga xos tarkib

**Introduction.** Teaching French as a foreign language to sports students comes with a unique set of challenges and opportunities. These students often have demanding schedules, physical and mental fatigue, and specific needs related to their sports careers. They require tailored programs that integrate language learning with their athletic activities. This article explores the primary challenges in teaching French to sports students and suggests strategies to make the learning process effective and engaging.

This careful attention to language extends to other sports as well. In American football, for example, terms such as running backs, safeties (marauders), quarterbacks, and touchdowns are used. The more presenters, athletes, journalists, and other sports professionals use the correct terminology and express themselves clearly, the more listeners will adopt these proper terms. [L. Benoit, 2021: 201]

This method is designed to cover approximately 100 hours of training, divided into 8 modules. The concept of the imperative is introduced after around 50 hours of French learning. However, in our program for foreign rugby players, this concept is introduced after only 12 hours of instruction. This is because understanding and using the imperative is crucial for players on the field, enabling them to communicate quickly and clearly with each other, understand the referee, and respond to the coach's instructions. This approach emphasizes that an FOS (French for Specific Purposes) program can be introduced at a beginner level, provided that the real needs of the learners are prioritized in the training program, rather than focusing solely on linguistic concerns. [L. Benoit, 2021: 205]

Today, all educational experts advocate for spiral progression. Spiral progression allows learners to revisit the same concept multiple times throughout the training, giving them the time needed to assimilate and acquire skills. Unlike linear progression, where concepts are presented one after the other, spiral progression provides learners with the opportunity to build on previous knowledge and integrate different concepts more effectively. This approach ensures that learners have ample opportunities to understand a concept.

### **Time Constraints and Scheduling Conflicts**

One of the most significant challenges in teaching French to sports students is their limited availability. Athletes often have rigorous training schedules, travel commitments for competitions, and recovery periods, leaving little time for language classes. This lack of time can lead to irregular attendance, making it difficult to maintain continuity in the learning process.

Solution: Flexible and Adaptable Programs

To address this, language programs for sports students should be highly flexible. Offering online courses, asynchronous learning modules, and intensive workshops during off-season periods can help accommodate their schedules. [R. Dupont, 2020: 43-44] Additionally, short, frequent sessions can be more effective than long, infrequent ones, as they allow students to practice consistently without overwhelming them.

Moreover, incorporating language learning into their daily routines, such as integrating French vocabulary and instructions during training sessions, can make the language more accessible and relevant. For instance, coaches could use French terms during practice to teach both sports and language simultaneously.

### Lack of Motivation and Engagement

Another significant issue is the motivation and engagement of sports students in learning French. Many athletes prioritize their athletic careers, and language learning may seem secondary or even irrelevant to them. Traditional language classes, which often focus on general grammar and vocabulary, may not resonate with their immediate needs, leading to disengagement.

Solution: Contextualized and Sports-Specific Content

To motivate sports students, it is essential to create language programs that align with their interests and professional goals. Sports-specific content can make lessons more engaging and

relevant. For example, teaching vocabulary related to specific sports (e.g., basketball, soccer, rugby) and using scenarios that athletes commonly encounter, such as post-match interviews, press conferences, or team meetings, can help students see the direct application of the language.

The use of role-playing activities, where students simulate real-life situations like negotiating contracts or interacting with French-speaking fans, can also enhance motivation. By focusing on immediate, practical uses of the language, educators can help sports students see the value in learning French and its potential benefits for their careers, such as expanding opportunities to play in francophone countries or improving their public image.

### **Physical and Mental Fatigue**

Sports students face physical and mental fatigue, which can impact their ability to concentrate and retain information during language classes. The physical demands of training, combined with travel schedules and the pressure of competition, can make it challenging for athletes to engage fully in traditional learning environments.

#### Solution: Integrating Physical Activity and Active Learning Techniques

Given the physical nature of sports students' routines, integrating movement and active learning techniques can help maintain their engagement and energy levels during language classes. [C. Leblanc, 2018: 95] Using activities that combine physical movement with language learning, such as scavenger hunts, relay races with vocabulary exercises, or task-based learning that involves sports drills, can create a dynamic and interactive classroom environment.

Additionally, incorporating relaxation and mindfulness techniques, such as short meditation or stretching sessions, can help students transition from intense training sessions to a more focused and receptive state for language learning.

## **Diverse Skill Levels and Backgrounds**

Sports students often come from diverse linguistic and educational backgrounds, which can present challenges for language instructors. Some may have a basic understanding of French, while others may be complete beginners. This diversity in skill levels requires tailored approaches to meet the varying needs of students within the same classroom.

### Solution: Differentiated Instruction and Personalized Learning Plans

To address this, language programs should implement differentiated instruction strategies. Grouping students by proficiency level, providing personalized learning plans, and using technology to offer self-paced online modules can help cater to individual needs. For example, advanced learners can work on specialized vocabulary or complex grammar structures, while beginners focus on foundational communication skills. [I. Kovalenko, 2020: 98-99]

Additionally, incorporating peer learning can be beneficial. Pairing more advanced students with beginners for certain activities fosters collaboration and allows students to learn from each other's experiences. Personalized feedback and progress tracking also play a critical role in ensuring that each student feels supported and can see their development over time.

## The Need for Specialized Training for Language Instructors

Teaching French to sports students require instructors who understand both the linguistic needs and the sports-specific context of their students. Unfortunately, not all French teachers are equipped with the knowledge or experience to design sports-specific language lessons. This lack of expertise can lead to generic lessons that fail to engage athletes or address their unique needs.

### Solution: Training Programs and Collaboration with Sports Experts

Investing in professional development for language instructors is crucial. Specialized training programs that provide educators with insights into sports culture, terminology, and the specific needs of sports students can help bridge this gap. Collaboration with coaches and sports professionals can also enrich the curriculum. For example, instructors can work closely with coaches to develop language activities that align with training sessions or competitions, making language learning a more integral part of the students' daily routines.

Additionally, inviting guest speakers, such as professional athletes or sports journalists who are fluent in French, can inspire students and provide them with role models who demonstrate the value of language skills in the sports industry.

## **Overcoming Cultural Barriers and Promoting Integration**

For many sports students, especially those from non-francophone countries, learning French is not only about mastering a new language but also about understanding and integrating into a new culture. The cultural aspect is particularly important when athletes are preparing to compete or live in French-speaking regions. However, if language programs do not address these cultural dimensions, students may struggle to fully adapt or communicate effectively.

Solution: Incorporating Cultural Competency into Language Lessons

To overcome cultural barriers, French language programs for sports students should include cultural competency components. Lessons on French sports culture, etiquette, and common expressions can help students navigate interactions both on and off the field. Exploring the history of sports in French-speaking countries, watching French sports documentaries, or engaging in discussions about famous French athletes can provide cultural context and make language lessons more engaging.

Furthermore, offering immersion experiences, such as attending French-speaking sports events or participating in exchange programs with francophone athletes, can deepen students' understanding and appreciation of French culture. These experiences not only improve language skills but also help athletes develop the cultural sensitivity needed for successful integration. [J. Martin, 2019: 45-47]

#### Conclusion

Teaching French to sports students involve addressing unique challenges related to time constraints, motivation, physical and mental fatigue, skill diversity, and cultural integration. By developing flexible, sports-specific programs that prioritize practical language use, educators can create a supportive and engaging learning environment. Through collaboration with sports professionals and continuous adaptation to meet students' needs, French language instruction can become a valuable tool that empowers sports students to thrive both on and off the field, enhancing their careers and personal growth.

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#### THE INTEGRATION OF TECHNOLOGY IN SCIENCE EDUCATION

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#### Abstract:

The integration of technology in science education has revolutionized the way students learn and apply theoretical knowledge in real-world contexts. This article explores the role of digital tools in enhancing students' ability to bridge the gap between theory and practice. It discusses the