INDEPENDENT WORK AS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE FORMATION OF NURSES OF NEW GENERATION

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Abstract. The problems of individual out-of-class work maintenance in the process of medical student education are examined in the article. It is proved that the usage of different kinds of individual in-class and out-of-class work are required in educational process. The main principles of the productive individual work maintenance and qualitative control of its results are presented. Some peculiarities of the fulfillment of individual in-class and out-of-class work with the applying of special medical equipment are pointed out.

Keywords: individual work, student, nursing education.

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Introduction

Independent work of the student is the primary means of mastering learning material at the time free from compulsory training sessions. The issue of organization of student’s extracurricular independent work as a methodological problem is not a new one. Analysis of scientific literature confirms the existence of a large experience of student’s independent work organization in and outside the classroom. This issue is topical not only for Ukrainian education. The history of higher education demonstrates the names of outstanding scientists who supported the student’s independent work. They are M. Pyrogov, D. Mendeleiev, M. Lobachevskyi, M. Zhukovskyi, as well as modern scientists-educators and practitioners O. Diordialeshchenko (2006), L. Levina (2010), A. Lypetskyi (2011), I. Nikolaychuk (2010), P. Pidkasystyi (1980), Y. Chumak (2012), I. Shaidur (2003), T. Balitska (2004) etc.

Psychological aspects of independent work are considered in the works by B. Ananaiev, N. Rubinstein. Psychologists N. Menchynska and D. Bogoiavlenskyi are the authors of the theory of learning ("The Psychology of learning in school", 1959), which is based on the idea of learning management and includes the processes of perception, analysis, synthesis, association, memorizing, understanding and application. According to these scholars, the main strategy to manage this process is to develop independent ways of learning.

The problems of professional training efficiency and usage of independent work are relevant, as number of hours of extracurricular activities, according to the curricula, are increased, which led to the growth of out-of-class work role in the educational process. An important factor is that the priorities in the training of future specialists are the following: the formation of creative and independent personality; the development of interest in knowledge; formation of professionally oriented motivation to educational activity. Life proves that only those skills which the student receives independently, through his own experience, thoughts,
and actions, will be really solid. If educational material is being worked on personally, from problem definition to the analysis of the obtained results, the student can absorb at least 90 percent of the information. The purpose of this article is to analyze the peculiarities of organization of student’s extracurricular independent work in the training the new generation nurses. To achieve this goal, we used methods of the systemic approach and logical generalization.

**Peculiarities and specificity of the in-class and out-of-class independent work of students during the education of new generation competitive nurse.**

In the process of training nurses the high level of theoretical knowledge is used and a wide and specific range of skills is formed. This is due to the real requirements of the future professional activity. Today the formation of the individual ability to master the knowledge independently and implement them throughout life is extremely relevant. That is why higher school is gradually, but steadily, moving from information transfer to management of the educational-cognitive activity and skill formation of student’s independent creative work. This allows fulfilling the maximal potential of every person, preparing him to continuous development and self-improvement (Bykov, 2008).

Extracurricular independent work as a part of the curriculum requires not only mastering the content of the discipline. Its function is much broader. It helps to form a person's ability to take responsibility, solve the problems and find optimal and constructive solutions in problem situations. It allows you to master the skills of academic and professional activities, encourages to deepen and broaden the amount of knowledge, arouses the interest to cognitive activity, promotes mastery of the cognition process techniques, development of cognitive abilities.

Independent work is implemented directly in the classroom, in contact with the teacher out of schedule – at the consultations and creative contacts, during the fulfillment of individual assignments, in the library, at home, in the dormitory during the homework preparation. Teachers provide students with:
- algorithms of the patient examination and writing of nursing documentation;
- a summary of the full content of the topic in the available sources of information;
- the algorithm of solving the situational tasks;
- educational videos.

In the organization of extracurricular activities it is appropriate to rely on the basic functions of the student’s independent work, namely: cognitive, independent, predictive, corrective and educative (Balitska, 2004). For the implementation of cognitive functions students are encouraged to use the workbooks, which allow systematizing the knowledge in the discipline without direct participation of the teacher according to the preset program or instruction.

The student’s independent work in the training classroom is the most prominent for the formation of professional skills. It encourages students to continuous skill innovation and creative usage. This provides an independent function.

The ability to predict the progress of the task and to anticipate and evaluate possible outcomes in time is educated with the help of a predictive function. An example of the development of this function is the skill to solve the situational problems of different levels. The skills to monitor and adjust the activity are very important for the medical worker. Such competence is formed by the corrective function of independent work. To develop this
competence, the paper version of the workbooks contains the tests of different complexity and monitoring tasks.

The formation of independence as a trait is the educational function of independent work. It is advisable to explain the purpose of the work, check its understanding by students, and gradually form the ability to set goals and choose solutions, to develop positive attitude towards extracurricular independent work at each stage. Different games and tasks that require different levels of intellectual activity can be offered for the student’s independent work.

The independent work is a specific kind of student cognitive activity. Its effectiveness depends on the individual, his will, perseverance, hard working, general training, abilities, and skills to work independently. It is possible to add game features in the process of independent work for the concernment of students. Depending on the level of student’s mastering necessary volume of material, it is advisable to offer following options of didactic games.

The game "Tournament of speakers" provides tasks on the reproductive level. The students should prepare brief (5 min) fascinating story on a given topic. On heuristic level they should prepare a short message on the original topic (field of study) and speak up. On the research level students prepare and pronounce the problematic speech (according to the specialty).

The game "Briefing" demands a differentiated approach depending on the degree of student’s preparation. The tasks on the reproductive level are given to make them prepare questions on the topic "press conference” and play the role of "a journalist". On a heuristic level students prepare problematic issues and play the role of "correspondents" of scientific journals. On the research level they are ready to answer possible questions and play the role of "a famous scientist", giving a "press conference", dedicated to new discoveries in medicine.

Changing of the conceptual framework and expansion of functions of student’s independent work leads not only to increasing of its volume and importance, but also causes a change in the relationship between a teacher and a student as equal subjects of educational activity. It corrects all psycho-pedagogical (organizational, methodical) means of ensuring student’s independent work (Diordiiashchenko, Donesena, 2006). This process encourages the search for such forms of educational work in which the care and control of the teacher does not suppress student’s initiative, and accustoms him to decide on the matters of organization, planning, control over the learning activities, it educate independence as a personal character trait (Balitska, 2004).

As it was mentioned above, the type differentiation of independent work is of great value. In the first phase the tasks for independent performance are mainly focused on the reproductive activities (taking notes, reviewing, abstracting of literature). After up-taking the content it is necessary to offer students control tasks (the test surveys, the list of questions and tasks).

The next step is the awareness of the role of new material in the topic and section. Having mastered the tasks of reproductive character, students acquire the readiness to compiling crosswords, structural logical schemes, algorithms for the execution of practical skills. It is important to use the techniques and tasks that encourage the students to identify the relationships and dependencies characterizing the system of knowledge. The formulation of problematic issues and the development of algorithms will be of great importance. The main guideline to achieve the consistency of independent work is the principle "from simple to complex" and interdisciplinary integration.
For maximal result it is advisable to use such types of student’s independent work for the desired purpose:
- learning new material: reading and note-taking of literary sources; watching videos; methodic material in electronic form;
- an enhanced education: preparation for tests, practical work; fulfillment of common tasks; other types of classes;
- study material with elements of creativity: solving non-standard tasks; participation in business games and analysis of problematic situations; the preparation of abstracts, reports, messages on a given topic;
- improvement of theoretical knowledge and practical skills in the classrooms of clinical practice, training classes and at the hospital bedsides.

Modern didactics offers the teacher a number of different technologies of independent activities, namely: individual consultations, non-standard questions, test on the understanding of material, computer testing, preparation of structurally-logic schemes, filling tables, solving of clinical situational tasks and test tasks, writing a nursing case histories, the work with papers of medical appointments, the work with nursing care plans, practical training, model training, development of diagnostic and therapeutic algorithms, evaluation of the results of instrumental and laboratory research of patients, work with electronic information sources.

The important task is the planning of the student’s independent work not as a set of separate techniques, but as a single, integrated system of tools, that combines different types of classroom and extracurricular activities and provides for the following principles: activation of cognitive activity, optimizing the amount and content of material, development of skills of self-education.

Sixteen or seventeen year old person can learn and work better if he has an implementation plan of objectives and constant monitoring. During the organization of student’s independent work the teachers should follow such techniques: educational (reminder, specification, statement of issues); stimulating (timely and regular review and evaluation of the performed work); motivation (goal setting of training and self-study, demonstration of the practical value of educational activities and results of work).

Now in the educational institutions, the majority of students are fluent in modern information technology; this makes the stage of finding and processing information easier. Therefore, the use of computer as a tool of creative activities for the project work contributes to the achievement of several objectives, namely:
- increasing of learning motivation;
- development of new competencies;
- realization of creative potential;
- increasing of personal self-esteem.

The model of the modern student involves willingness to use of new educational ideas, the ability to learn independently, to be in a constant creative searching. These qualities are formed in the daily hard work. Today, in the era of information technologies it is appropriate to apply modern types of the organization of independent extracurricular work in the form of a Web quest. Web-quest is the type of research activities organized in a special way, for conducting of which students gather the necessary information in the Internet at the specified addresses. Web quests are created in order to use the time for learning efficiently, and to apply the obtained information during the implementation of practical skills. This kind of activity develops the skills of critical thinking, analysis, synthesis and evaluation of information and finding solutions to problems that may arise.

The term "web quest" (Web Quest) was offered by Bernie Dodge (Bernie Dodge), the professor of educational technology at the University of San Diego (USA) in the summer,
1995. The author has developed the innovative Internet applications to integrate them into the educational process during the teaching of various educational disciplines considering different levels of training. Kenton Letkeman, the creator of a number of wonderful web-quests, believes, that this is a super tool for independent classroom and extracurricular work, because it applies the constructivist approach to the learning of the theoretical knowledge and algorithms of practical skills. Performing web-quests students do not receive ready answers or solutions, they solve their task.

To maximize the efficiency of the independent work, the web-quest (in a special way organized web page) should consist of the following parts:

- introduction, where you define the initial situation and suggest a timeline for implementation;
- a task, that is interesting for students and can be really done;
- the complete list of references to network resources, that is required to perform the task;
- the description of the process of work execution should be divided into stages of planning for a specific period of time;
- hints and explanations regarding the analysis of the information gathered: leading questions, key concepts of the theme, cause-effect diagrams;
- the conclusion, which recalls the aim of this work, options of the final results, which are got by completing quests; the ways of further independent work on the subject or recommendations of how to apply the experience in another area.

It is convenient that Web quests can be different in duration, depending on the purpose or the complexity of the problem, namely short-term and long-term ones. The Web-quest can be generated on the basis of one discipline, interdisciplinary or binary, and can apply knowledge and skills acquired in other disciplines. We can assume that in the second case, this work will give more effective results.

One of the main aspects of organization of independent work is the development of forms and methods for control of student’s independent work. The training material provided by the curriculum for student’s learning during independent work is submitted for the final estimation along with the educational material that was studied during classroom practical training.

For student’s self-learning, it is advisable to develop training materials of different levels and purposes, these materials should teach students to conduct self-monitoring. Control of student’s independent work is mandatory, and includes: answers to tests or test questions, checking summaries, abstracts, situational tasks, practical skills, individual tasks performed.

Conclusions and suggestions

The quality of nursing training largely depends on the techniques that are used in the educational process. The purpose of student’s independent work is twofold: the formation of independence as a personality trait and mastering knowledge and skills. The role of student’s independent work is constantly increasing, because it gives the opportunity to build up the general and special professional skills, educates valuable human qualities, and encourages the pursuit of self-development. Independent work requires constant improvement and feature extensions that will provide additional opportunities to develop and implement the received skills in future life. The classroom and extracurricular organization of student’s independent work in higher educational institutions on a high didactic level is urgently needed for
pedagogy at present, it requires research and scientific study. Since the modern requirements of higher medical education include increasing in the proportion of independent work, its implementation and effective organization are the most important tasks for the teacher who acts as facilitator and tutor. Therefore, student’s independent learning at home and college can improve the quality of professional skills formation. Formed professional skills are keys to the success of a future medical worker.

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