

# MULTILINGUAL INTERACTIVE DICTATION AS AN ALTERNATIVE TOOL TO TEACHING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

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## Анотація

*Дана стаття присвячена використанню мультимовного онлайн диктанту в навчанні ноземної мови як альтернативою до традиційного диктанту. Розширення словникового запасу учнів - це те, чого слід приділяти пильну увагу. В якості однієї з форм роботи з вокабуляром є запропонований вид диктанту. Автор демонструє його переваги: доступність як локально, так і через мережу Інтернет; автоматична перевірка з видачею статистики; універсальність. Особливе значення має розробка подібних диктантів і макетів до них самими учнями. В такому випадку вони одночасно складають навчальний матеріал для викладача і працюють з лексикою по заданій темі.*

**Ключові слова:** мультимовний онлайн диктант, словниковий диктант, традиційний диктант, словниковий запас, навчальний матеріал, HTML5, JavaScript.

## Abstract

*This article is about using a multilingual online dictation in teaching a foreign language as an alternative to a traditional dictation. Increasing the vocabulary of students is something that should be paid close attention to. The proposed type of dictation serves as one of the form of working with the vocabulary. The author demonstrates its advantages: accessible both locally and over the Internet; automatic checking with statistics output; versatility. It is of particular importance that the development of such dictations and models to them can be completed by the students themselves. In this case, they simultaneously form a course content for the teacher and work with vocabulary on a given topic.*

**Keywords:** multilingual online dictation, word quiz, traditional dictation, vocabulary, course content, HTML5, JavaScript.

An important element of the developing of communicative competence in the process of teaching foreign languages is growing vocabulary. Some teachers believe that the traditional use of dictation in the language class did not provide much opportunity for student engagement or interaction. It is proposed to use an electronic interactive dictation in working with vocabulary. A template for such a dictation was developed using the markup language HTML5 and JavaScript [1]. Based on the proposed template, different types and forms of dictations can be implemented: phoneme, spelling, phoneme-spelling, vocabulary (semantic), syntactic (punctuation), hybrid (combining different forms); running dictation, confusing story technique, dictogloss, training, control, diagnostic; child-to-adult [2, c.24].

In order to execute a dictation, the html-file is placed in the form of web page on a local computer or on a server. Thus, it will be available locally or over the network, including via the Internet. Absence of access to the Internet does not hinder the task. You just need to run the file from the appropriate directory and you can work with the dictation in the browser window. At the same time, it does not depend on an external network service and allows the teacher to make his own dictations, taking into account the characteristics of the educational process, including the development of professional vocabulary. You can study, consolidate and control the lexical material on this topic.

Didactically the dictation is based on the technology of closed-type test items (when the student has to choose one of the proposed answer options). Each time, upon repeated passage, the dictation gives different sequences of options to different users. The options for the correct answers are mixed up, depriving the student of the ability to visually remember the placement of the correct answer. The proposed dictation can be implemented in any language or as multilingual (using different languages in one dictation). This greatly increases solutions for its use.

The didactically significant feature of the dictation is the ability to protect code from reading. It will be unreadable for curious students (in the part where the Cyrillic alphabet is used). It is impossible to find the correct answer in the dictation by looking at the web page code in the editor. To prevent such precedents it's

enough to save the html-file of the dictation prepared by the teacher in a different encoding (for example, ANSI or Unicode) and the student will not be able to see the desired answer. The dictation is able to do an automatic verification providing with statistics. The number of spelling, lexical and punctuation errors, as well as the total number of errors are taken into account. The development of dictations by the students themselves is of particular importance. In this case, learning becomes productive, combined with the production of educational material. In the process of compiling a dictation without assistance, the student will work with lexical material, choosing synonyms, antonyms, learning the meanings of new words. To do his test a student needs to:

- 1) download the archive with the test [2];
- 2) open the html-file using any text or html-editor (Notepad++, MS FrontPage, VisualStudio);
- 3) change a piece of a code:
  - a) change underlined text of a dictation or word quiz to his own one[4];

```
</div>
<div id="out_data"></div>
<div id="title"><p><span lang="ru">1.The fire spread over to forecastle. 2.We cannot extinguish fire. 3.Fire extinguisher.
</p></div><input type="hidden" name="text" id="text" value="1">&nbsp;<div id="results"></div>
```

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b)insert his own text one more time in another part of the code(underlined) [5]

```
<script type="text/javascript">
$(document).ready(function(){
  var st = $.now();
  var txt = new Text();
  txt.getBaseText('1.The fire {orf:spread over|went on|blown on}(перекинулся) to forecastle. 2.We cannot
  txt.render($('#title'));
  $('#title').after('<button id="check" type="button" class="btn btn-primary">Проверить</button>');
  $('#check').after('<input type="hidden" name="text" id="text" value=1 />');
});
```

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and adding the container that is responsible for lexical [6]

```
<script type="text/javascript">
$(document).ready(function(){
  var st = $.now();
  var txt = new Text();
  txt.getBaseText('1.The fire {orf:spread over|went on|blown on}(перекинулся) to forecastle. 2.We cannot
  txt.render($('#title'));
  $('#title').after('<button id="check" type="button" class="btn btn-primary">Проверить</button>');
});
```

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and punctuation checking[7].

```
6. The vessel {orf:caught fire|get fire|broke out}(спалахнуло) {punct: |запятая|пробел}as a result of
```

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It should be taken into account, that a right answer always goes firstamong other possible answer points within the container[8].

```
var st = $.now();
var txt = new Text();
txt.getBaseText('1.The fire {orf:spread over|went on|blown on}(перекинулся) to
txt.render($('#title'));
$('#title').after('<button id="check" type="button" class="btn btn-primary">Проверить</button>');
$('#check').after('<input type="hidden" name="text" id="text" value=1 />');
```

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Applying of the proposed electronic interactive word quiz has several advantages over the classical forms of dictation and can serve as their complement or alternative to a form of educational and assessment work.

## СПИСОК ВИКОРИСТАНОЇ ЛІТЕРАТУРИ

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