

**Людина в мовному просторі:  
історична спадщина, проблеми,  
перспективи розвитку**

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**A Person in the Language Space:  
Historical Heritage, Problems  
and Development Prospects**

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## **INFOGRAPHICS AS A TOOL FOR PROJECT-BASED LEARNING IN EFL/ESL/ENL CLASSES**

Developing students' 21st-century skills such as problem-solving, creativity, communication, collaboration, technical and digital literacy, etc. requires new approaches and methods to education. Project-based learning (PBL) is considered to implement learners' engagement and skills in real-world situations, so they use already gained knowledge practically and get new knowledge through active learning.

As far as PDL involves teamwork (or individual) on a complex question or a problem and its further solution in some product (students present the project in public) the process of facilitating PDL by teachers in the class must be well-designed. So, PBLWorks and Buck Institute for Education have created and proposed the 'Gold Standard PBL', a framework for developing high-quality projects in the classrooms [1] (Picture 1).

Picture 1. *Gold Standard PBL:  
Seven Essential Project Design Elements*



Starting with a challenging problem or question a teacher engages students' curiosity in finding answers and applying necessary information (sustained inquiry) within the real-world context or personal interests (authenticity), they are encouraged to express their own ideas and choices in the project (student voice & choice), self-reflect upon it and learning process and get feedback from the teacher (reflection) and peers in order to improve it next time (critique & revision), in the end, students present and share the results of their project, also beyond the classroom (public product) [1].

Following and considering these PBL design elements can help reach the learning goals, for instance, building students' capacity to work through problems, and increase students' interest in studying and motivation for life-long learning.

Infographics as a teaching method are widespread due to their ability to visualize complex concepts and organize the amount of information in a relatively small space (you may read more, for instance, in British Council and EASELY blogs [2-4]). But the perspective can be changed by implementing infographics for such active learning approaches as PBL.

Infographics may be used as a tool for projects in EFL/ESL/ENL classes to organize and analyze the information, generate ideas, provide solutions, and make the project more efficient. They can relate to language itself (vocabulary, grammar) or culture studies where English isn't a goal but a means to get knowledge and practice language skills.

For example, in learning English idioms students might be proposed to make a mini-project in exploring their origins and meanings and visualize the results in the block infographics. Or they can make a timeline or map infographics of immigration to the USA, or show tips for writing a good essay, and so on. A topic and a challenging question can vary according to the curriculum, time, goals, and students' interests.

Let's plan the steps for a mini-project about Shakespeare's idioms.

1. **Scenario and tasks.** Scientists count about 1,700 words that Shakespeare could invent, some of them are idioms. Choose 5 idioms, explore their origins, meaning, and quotations from Shakespeare's works, give your own examples of using them, and organize the information in infographics.
2. **Teamwork in generating ideas.** Students search for Shakespeare's idioms, choose 5 they would like to investigate (can be based on principles of common theme or structure devices), and work with dictionaries and textbooks to find out the meaning and origins of the idioms.

3. **Designing and developing a prototype of the solution.** Students make their own examples with idioms. Then they choose the online platform (Canva, VistaCreate, Prezi, Visme) and the template for their infographics and decide the way of organizing information. Create the infographics and gather feedback.

4. **Presentation of the final product and reflection.**

The teacher’s role in all these steps is to assist and facilitate the process. You can see the infographics made by 2-year students of BSPU, who are studying English (Picture 2).

To sum up, as a student-centered teaching method and a pedagogical approach project-based learning helps to master problem-solving skills, communication, collaboration, and personal responsibility for work and boosts students’ learning curiosity. It is flexible and can be implemented in person or in remote learning environments within any discipline. Infographics are considered a convenient tool for organizing and presenting the project in EFL/ESL/ENL classes.

Picture 2. *Shakespeare’s Idioms Infographics.*



### APPLE OF MY EYE

**Meaning:** To say that someone is the apple of your eye means that you love and cherish them above all others.

**Origins:** "Flower of this purple dye, hit with Cupid's archery, sink in apple of his eye." (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*)

**Example:** My little sister is the *apple of my eye*, and I'll always protect and care for her.



### KILL WITH KINDNESS

**Meaning:** This phrase means that you will get what you want by being very kind to another person.

**Origins:** "This is a way to kill a wife with kindness, and thus I'll curb her mad and headstrong humor." (*The Taming of the Shrew*)

**Example:** When faced with rude comments, she chose to *kill them with kindness*, responding with a smile and a polite remark.



### LIE LOW

**Meaning:** The act of "lying low" is described as keeping quiet and avoiding attention.

**Origins:** "If he could right himself with quarrelling, some of us would lie low." (*Much Ado About Nothing*)

**Example:** After the controversy, he decided to *lie low* for a while, avoiding the public eye and keeping a low profile.



## REFERENCES

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