

IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF HISTORICAL MONUMENTS IN LANGUAGE LEARNING

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Annotation

Historical monuments are fascinating structures that provide insight into the past, and they can be valuable tools for language learning. When studying a foreign language, historical monuments offer a unique opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the culture and history of the country. In this article, we will discuss some important aspects of historical monuments that can be incorporated into language learning.

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Introduction

Historical monuments are physical structures or landmarks that have historical, cultural, or artistic significance. They are often associated with important events, people, or movements that have shaped the history and culture of a region or country. Historical monuments can take many forms, including buildings, statues, bridges, forts, and other structures. Examples of historical monuments include the Ark Fortress in Uzbekistan, the Great Wall of China, the Eiffel Tower in France, the Taj Mahal in India, the Pyramids of Egypt, and the Acropolis in Greece. These monuments are not only impressive architectural feats, but they also have significant historical and cultural value, representing the history, art, and achievements of the people who built them.

Main part:

As an example, the Ark Fortress is an important historical monument in Uzbekistan and is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage site. It is a popular tourist attraction and serves as a symbol of Uzbekistan's rich cultural and architectural heritage. The monument is also significant in terms of language learning as it provides an opportunity for language learners to learn about Uzbek history and culture, practice their language skills with local guides, and engage in authentic language experiences. In other words, historical monuments play an important role in language learning because they provide a unique context for language learners to practice their skills. Here are some ways in which historical monuments can aid in language learning:

Cultural and Historical Context

Historical monuments are tangible symbols of a country's culture and history. They represent significant events, achievements, and values of a particular era. Learning about these monuments exposes individuals to different cultures and historical contexts, helping them understand the language used during those times. This exposure enhances their vocabulary, comprehension, and contextual

understanding of the language.

Language Immersion

Visiting historical monuments in a foreign country offers an immersive language experience. Engaging with locals, reading signage, and listening to tour guides provide exposure to authentic language usage. This immersive environment enhances language learning by improving pronunciation, listening comprehension, and conversational skills.

Architectural Features

Historical monuments often have unique architectural features that reflect the styles and techniques used during their construction. Learning about these features can help language learners develop their vocabulary and understanding of technical terms related to architecture. For instance, the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris is known for its Gothic architecture, with features such as flying buttresses, pointed arches, and ribbed vaults.

Historical Context

Historical monuments are products of the time period in which they were built. Learning about the historical context in which a monument was constructed can provide language learners with a broader understanding of the events, people, and movements that shaped the culture and history of the country. For example, the Pyramids of Giza in Egypt were built during the Old Kingdom period of Ancient Egypt, and they represent the pharaoh's power and wealth during that time.

Guided Tours and Audio Guides

Guided tours and audio guides at historical monuments provide spoken language input. By actively listening to the tour guide or audio guide, learners can improve their listening comprehension skills and become familiar with native pronunciation, intonation, and sentence structures. This exposure to spoken language contributes to the acquisition and reinforcement of grammar patterns.

Reading and Research Opportunities

Historical monuments often have plaques, inscriptions, or guidebooks that provide information about their significance. Reading and researching these materials in the native language of the monument helps learners improve their reading skills. They encounter new vocabulary, idioms, and sentence structures specific to historical contexts, broadening their language proficiency.

Comparative Grammar

Comparing the grammar structures of the language used in historical monuments with the learner's native language or other languages they are studying can be a valuable exercise. By identifying similarities and differences in sentence structure, word order, verb conjugations, or grammatical features, learners deepen their understanding of grammar and develop a comparative perspective.

Example: Comparing English and Uzbek Grammar Structures at a Historical Monument

English Sentence Structure: "The temple is known for its intricate carvings."

Uzbek Sentence Structure: "Ibodatxona o`zining murakkab o`ymakorligi bilan mashhur."

Comparison:

In English, the verb "is known" is in the passive voice and uses the third-person singular form "is." In Uzbek, the verb "bilan mashhur" (known for) is used, indicating the temple's reputation. Both languages express knowledge or reputation through different verb forms.

In English, the definite article "the" is used before the noun "temple." In Uzbek, definite articles are not used. Instead, the noun "ibodatxona" stands alone without an article. This difference reflects a variation

in the use of articles between the two languages.

In English, the word order is subject-verb-adjective ("The temple is known for its intricate carvings"). In Uzbek, the word order is noun-adjective ("Ibodatxona o`zining murakkab o`ymakorligi bilan mashhur"). Both languages convey the information about the temple's distinctive carvings using an adjective that follows the noun.

Noun Phrase Structure: In English, the possessive pronoun "its" is used to indicate the carvings belong to the temple. In Uzbek, the phrase "o`ziga xos" (with its unique) is used to convey a similar meaning. Both languages employ different structures to express the relationship between the temple and the carvings.

Literature and Artistic Expressions

Many historical monuments have inspired literature, poetry, music, and other forms of artistic expressions. Exploring these works in their original language allows learners to appreciate the nuances, metaphors, and wordplay that may be lost in translation. This exposure deepens their understanding of the language's cultural and literary heritage, fostering advanced language skills.

Writing Assignments

Historical monuments can be excellent prompts for writing assignments that focus on grammar. Learners can be tasked with describing a monument, narrating its history, or expressing their opinions and impressions. Through these writing exercises, learners practice using various grammar structures, verb tenses, adjectives, and connectors.

Tourist Information

Many historical monuments are popular tourist attractions and provide an opportunity for language learners to practice their language skills in a real-world context. Providing information about the monument's location, hours, admission fees, and other practical details can help language learners plan a visit and communicate effectively with local residents. For example, the Eiffel Tower in Paris attracts millions of visitors each year, and knowing how to navigate the crowds and purchase tickets in French can be a valuable language learning experience.

Vocabulary Expansion:

Historical monuments often have specific architectural features, historical events, or artistic styles associated with them. Exploring these monuments exposes learners to domain-specific vocabulary related to architecture, history, and art. As they encounter these terms and concepts, their vocabulary expands, enabling them to express themselves more precisely and fluently.

Below are some architectural terms introduced into the world consumption from the Uzbek language:

Islamic buildings

Turquoise dome- Turkiy gumbaz

Desert citadels- Cho`ldagi qo`rg`on (karvonsaroy)lar

Fortified palaces- Qal`a-saroylar

Colored tilework- Rangli g`ishtinsozlik

Pishtak- Peshtoq

Ark (fortified citadel)- Ark

Shahristan (inner city)- Shahriston

Rabad (suburbs)- Rabod

Hammams (multidomed bathhouses)- Hammom
 Rabat (caravanserais)- Rabot
 Tim (shopping arcades)- Tim
 Tok (or tak; covered crossroad bazaars)- Toq
 Hauz (reservoirs)- Hovuz
 Masjid (mosques)- Masjid
 Guzar (local mosque)- Guzar (mahalliy masjid)
 Jami masjid (Friday mosque)- Jome` masjid
 Namazgokh (festival mosque)- Namozgoh (bayram/sayl masjidi)
 Mihrab- Mehrob
 Medressas- Madrasa
 Aivan (or aiwan; arched portals)- Ayvon
 Hujra (cell-like living quarters for students and teachers)- Hujra
 Khanaka (prayer cells or entire buildings)- Xonaqo
 Darskhana (lecture room)- Darsxona
 Mazar (mausoleum)- Mozor
 Ziaratkhana (prayer room)- Ziyoratxona
 Gurkhana (tomb)- Go`rxona
 Minarets- Minora
 Chorsu (market arcade)- Chorsu
 Ghanch (carved and painted alabaster decoration)- Ganch
 Qala (fortress (also kala)- Qal`a
 Girikh (Geometric and knot designs)- Girix (geometrik va tugunli naqshlar)

Conclusion:

In conclusion, historical monuments are physical structures or landmarks that have historical, cultural, or artistic significance. They are important symbols of a region's cultural heritage and can provide a tangible link to the past, allowing us to learn about the events and people who have shaped our world. In addition, historical monuments can offer opportunities to explore language in its cultural and historical contexts, expand vocabulary, and deepen comprehension. By engaging with historical monuments, language learners can develop a more nuanced and advanced level of language proficiency. Whether studying a foreign language for personal or professional reasons, historical monuments provide a unique and engaging way to enhance language learning.

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