

**USING COMMUNICATIVE METHOD AS ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE  
IN TEACHING THE UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE TO FOREIGN STUDENTS  
AT THE PREPARATORY STAGE OF LANGUAGE LEARNING**

The article examines the features of using the communicative method as one of the most effective in teaching the Ukrainian language to foreign students at the preparatory department. Based on theoretical analysis of scholarly papers, the principal didactic and methodological principles of communicative methodology were defined. The most important elements of presenting lexical material at the initial stage of training with using the potential of students' stay in the language environment were determined, and the key role of listening in teaching Ukrainian as a foreign language was substantiated. Special attention is focused on learning activities aimed at vocabulary processing and at developing listening skills.

The author concludes that the principal advantages of communicative methodology are: rapid overcoming of the language barrier; teaching Ukrainian as a foreign language from the zero level; teaching without using the intermediary language; using the language in situations of real life, etc.