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RUSSIAN-LANGUAGE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES: THE MONITORING RESULTS

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Abstract

The article presents the results of the monitoring research of the educational Internet resources in Russian language, evaluation criteria and the prospects for the use of analyzed electronic resources during the study of Russian language and education in Russian, as well as in the process of professional activities related to the teaching of Russian language, the organization of open education in Russian and the implementation of Russian language training for different categories of persons, including bilinguals living in multi-ethnic, poly-linqual, multi-religious regions. Monitoring of 300 Russian-language educational Internet resources related to the teaching of Russian language was conducted by the experts in linguistics, information technology and special (defectological) education. Expert evaluation was carried out according to specially developed criteria. The authors employed general scientific methods such as synthesis, analysis, comparison, descriptive methods including methods of observation, generalization and classification as well as methods of statistical and quantitative analysis. The authors have identified and described 300 Russian-language educational Internet resources related to the study and teaching of Russian language, developed the evaluation system, created an electronic database with rating lists of the Internet resources, distributed both on the integral total criterion and on individual characteristics, carried out the monitoring of websites according to the stated criteria. Overall, there have been different criteria and web resources evaluation principles in the literature. Formed electronic database can help both content developers in terms of its further improvement and users in the course of studying or teaching Russian.

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Keywords: Bilinguals, evaluation criteria, educational Internet resources, monitoring, the Russian language.

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1. Introduction

The research team of BSPU n. a. M. Akmulla have been working out a project «Internet resources related to the study of Russian language and education in Russian on the Internet and in the media» (Grant of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation for the Russian Language Federal Targeted Programme 2016-2020) for 2 years. The programme is designed to promote the use, spread and proliferation of the Russian language in the country (including multi-ethnic, poly-lingual, multi-religious regions), to improve conditions for promoting the Russian culture, science, education in the world community through active communications policy. The urgency of the project is determined by internal and external conditions related to socio-political changes in the Russian Federation in recent years such as sense of national identity and a respectful attitude to the Russian language and culture, preservation of the national and cultural identities of the Russians living in other countries, the resulting necessity for learning Russian, language learning for working migrants, who came to Russia to pass the exam on knowledge of the Russian language; the Russian language education for citizens of foreign countries, including former citizens of Russia to raise competitiveness on the employment market. In this regard, the development of open education in Russian and teaching Russian as a native, non-native and foreign language to the Russian Federation citizens and representatives of other countries becomes more relevant and can be implemented through modern information technologies. The stated tasks are achieved through extensive information campaign in the media, the Russian-language educational Internet resources monitoring and the database on the Russian language learning and education in Russian on the Internet.

2. Problem Statement

Computer and remote language learning technologies, including Russian as a native, non-native and foreign language learning (Bogomolov, 2009; Nikitenko, Yanchenko, Nikitenko, & Deikina, 2017) are being actively developed in recent years (Bakar, Latif, & Yaacob, 2017; Milrud, 2012). A first description of the specifics of how the Russian-language Internet works (Badrakh & Shirnen, 2015; Moroslin, 2009); genre classification of websites (Kononenko & Sidorova, 2015; Moroslin, 2010) have been determined. The prospects of distance learning the Russian language (Azimov, 2014; Bondareva & Beloglazova, 2015) and the change of the career development system to remote mode were discussed (Lebedeva & Semenova, 2013). There are some kinds of advantages and disadvantages of the use of social media in the Russian language learning (Savitskaya, 2012). The special attention is paid to the methods of creation of educational materials based on resources, software and Internet tools (Nazarova & Grinberg, 2010; Yaroslavskaya, 2012).

3. Research Questions

The study involved Russian-language educational Internet resources, which diversity provides the necessity of monitoring.

4. Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to conduct the research of 300 Russian-language educational Internet resources related to the Russian language learning and teaching and evaluate their efficiency and forecasting. The article presents the results of monitoring analysis of the Russian-language educational websites, evaluation criteria and the prospects for the use of analyzed electronic resources during the study of Russian language and education in Russian as well as in the process of professional activities related to teaching of Russian language, the organization of open education in Russian and the implementation of Russian language training for different categories of persons, including bilinguals, who live in multi-ethnic, poly-lingual, multi-religious regions.

5. Research Methods

Monitoring of 300 Russian-language educational Internet resources related to the teaching of Russian language was conducted by the experts in linguistics, information technology and special (defectologic) education. They established the following criteria to evaluate the condition and efficiency of the Russian language educational Internet resources:

- I. Criteria related to the general information on the website:
- 1) the source of information (the author of an educational Internet resource): private / legal entity, expert / layman;
- 2) target audience (recipient, to whom the educational resource is intended to and to whom it will be useful): instructors, professors, teachers / students; those who speak/does not speak in Russian; Russian-speaking mono-linquals / bi- and poly-linquals; pupil / students; humanitarian / non-humanitarian;
 - II. Criteria for the experts in linquistics:
- 1) reliability, verifiability of information (scientific / unscientific, proved / unproved information is presented at the resource): has / has not references to particular sources of information, their reliability / unreliability);
- 2) relevance, novelty of information (is consistent / inconsistent with current scientific images, hypothesis, theories, knowledges); current / past data;
 - 3) objective data: the point of view, opinion of one or more researchers, instructor;
- 4) engagement of the information in a socio-cultural context: has / has not references or mentions about social, cultural-historical events, facts, ignorance of which may have impact on the level of perception and understanding the information;
- 5) language aspect: informational content / conciseness, complexity / accessibility, accuracy / inaccuracy, consistency / inconsistency; absence of misprints, orthographic, grammar, stylistic mistakes;
- 6) method of giving the information: structured, systemic / randomness, diversity / consistency; adequacy of the use of illustrations (as a supplement to the text rather than a distraction), the absence of negative impact of advertising (if any);
- 7) diverse range of information on the types of materials: curriculum / theoretical courses / practicum / methodological recommendations / tests / techniques; text/ audio- / video-materials / online-courses; interactivity of the website;

- III. Criteria for the experts in information technology:
- 1) technological effectiveness (if the website works on all platforms and browsers; if it is possible to view the website with different resolutions);
 - 2) usability (the ease of use);
 - 3) external links (links to the resource);
 - IV. Criteria for the experts in special (defectologic) education:
 - 1) access to information on the website for persons with disabilities and health limitations;
 - V. Criteria for all the experts:
- 1) access to information (unpaid resource / paid resource; with or without registration, the information appears immediately or not);
 - 2) attractive design.

The general logistics plan for the information search on the hybrid relevance of search queries has been developed for a sample of 300 Internet resources. The experts selected Russian-language educational websites by their conformity or non-conformity with the project objectives. Every expert went through 200 Internet resources on Yandex and Google search systems and completed the following sampling protocol (see table 1).

Table 01. Educational Internet resources sampling protocol

№ Ser.	Address of the Internet	Name of the	Conformity with
No.	resource	Internet resource	the project subject
	(access mode)		(yes/no)

The expert _____ (full name).

300 Russian-language educational Internet resources conforming to the project objectives were selected according to the first sampling results.

A dedicated website «Automated System of Comparative Evaluation of BSPU named after M. Akmulla» with the expert evaluation based on stated criteria has been created to establish an electronic database (figure 01).

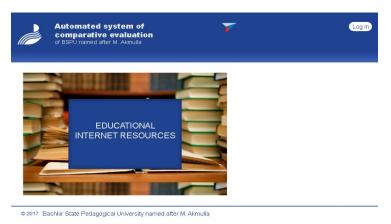


Figure 01.The website «Automated system of comparative evaluation of BSPU named after M. Akmulla»

6. Findings

The monitoring of Russian-language educational Internet resources had demonstrated that following websites got the highest scores for most of the criteria (Figure 2): Modern Russian – International Information and Educational Project, Pushkin State Russian Language Institute, Reference and Information Portal GRAMOTA.RU – Russian language for everyone, RSTRLL – Russian Society of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature, Institute of Russian Language and Culture, "Education in Russian" Portal, All-Russian Public Organization "Association of Teachers of Literature and Russian Language", Interactive Educational Resources on Russian as a Second Language Programme, Unified State Examination Portal, Russian Scientific Electronic Library "CyberLeninka", IATRLL – International Association of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature, Information Portal of the Russian World Foundation, Institute of Education Development of the Republic of Bashkortostan, "Culture of Writing" Portal, "I Can Write" Portal.

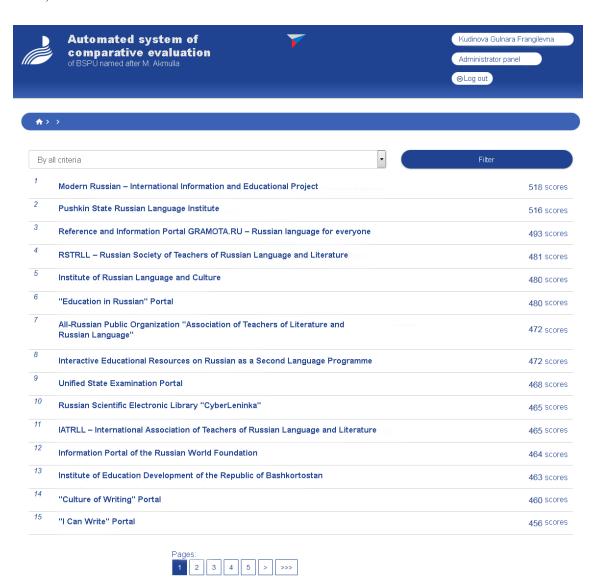
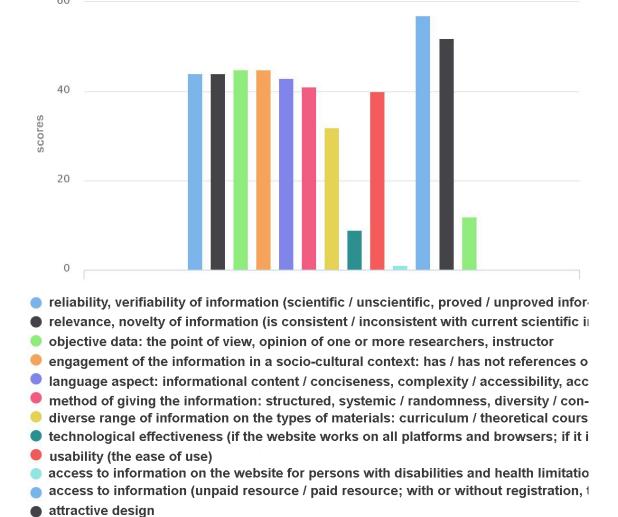


Figure 02. The list of educational Internet resources by the number of expert points

The monitoring results based on different criteria (the highest score for most of the criteria, usability, attractive design, etc.) are displayed on the website as diagrams and figures. The diagrams indicate the websites scores for all the criteria (Figure 03).



Highcharts.com

Figure 03. Comparative diagrams on the website «Automated system of comparative evaluation of BSPU named after M. Akmulla»

external links (links to the resource)

Moreover, the rating of web resources for each criteria can be found on the website «The automated system of comparative evaluation of BSPU named after M. Akmulla». Pushkin State Russian Language Institute, Manuscript, RSTRLL – Russian Society of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature scored highest for «reliability, verifiability of information» (Figure. 4).

ft)	Educational Internet Resources ucational Internet Resources	
Ratin	g of Educational Internet Resources	
reli	ability, verifiability of information (scientific / unscientific, proved / unproved information is	r
1	Pushkin State Russian Language Institute	48 scor
2	Manusript	47 scor
3	RSTRLL – Russian Society of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature	47 scor
4	All-Russian Public Organization "Association of Teachers of Literature and Russian Language"	47 scor
5	"Education in Russian" Portal	47 scor

Figure 04. Rating of websites according to the criterion of «reliability, verifiability of information»

The website of Pushkin State Russian Language Institute, "Education in Russian" Portal, Institute of Russian Language and Culture scored high for the criterion of «relevance, novelty of information»: (Figure. 5).

^	Educational Internet Resources >	
	ucational Internet Resources g of Educational Internet Resources	
rele	evance, novelty of information (is consistent / inconsistent with current scientific images,	Filter
1	Pushkin State Russian Language Institute	49 scores
2	"Education in Russian" Portal	48 score
3	Institute of Russian Language and Culture	47 scores
4	Educational portal of RUDN University	47 scores
5	Modern Russian – International Information and Educational Project	46 scores

Figure 05. Rating of websites according to the criterion of «relevance, novelty of information»

Electronic database was published on a dedicated BSPU website and submitted to the Pushkin State Russian Language Institute under a licensing agreement and published on the Internet-portal «Education in Russian» under the Russian language promotion programme initiated by the Government Council on the Russian language and The Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation.

The Internet resources are classified according to the different criteria in the sources reviewed. For example, the study singles out the following resources in terms of type of the information: personal, institutional, online stores, educational, news, databases, electronic libraries, encyclopedias, dictionaries and etc, Moreover, there are static websites (which are presented on the Internet without an changes) and dynamic websites (which are created in response to the users request, information (web site of the Institute) or communication websites: blogs, chats, forums, social services, twitter (Kravchenko, 2015).

Different (or the same) criteria and principles for evaluating the web resources are found in literature and web resources (Sidorova, 2012). The sites are more usefully evaluated at total integral criterion, which includes: website content quality; comfort of interface; visually attractive design of the website; websites interactivity.

But overall, a wide range of constraints to classification and use of electronic educational resources was noted (Bulakina, 2005). This is connected with the fact that 1) resources are presented randomly on the Internet, it is difficult to perform website search and define its description and connection with other resources; 2) resources differ from each other in relevance, completeness, type of description, the level of reporting and access to the information; 3) methods of reporting, the balance between textual and audiovisual information are determined by the authors, there is no standards in this field.

There are various points of view and we believe that electronic database formed as the result of monitoring of the Russian-language educational Internet resources on teaching and learning the Russian language, rating-list of reviewed websites will help content developers to improve it and users to learn the Russian language and get an education in Russian, get a qualification in Russian language teaching and organizing the open education in Russian, teaching people of different categories.

7. Conclusion

Therefore, establishment of the database indicating the results of monitoring of the Russian-language educational Internet resources on teaching and learning the Russian language, insertion of the monitoring results on the BSPU website and Internet portal of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation «Education in Russian» give the opportunity to support and promote the Russian language as state, native, non-native, foreign language and to teach the people of different categories, provide methodological and training support to teachers in the use of interactive teaching methods, information technologies and the Internet-resources.

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