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Challenges and Trends in English and Bilingual Classrooms

Abstract

This presentation provides a comprehensive analysis of the evolving challenges and emerging trends in English and bilingual classrooms, emphasizing their pivotal role in shaping future language acquisition within diverse educational contexts. It investigates the impact of standardized assessments — particularly the Hungarian Matura examination — on skill development and overall language proficiency, drawing on longitudinal data from the Educational Authority of Hungary. The study identifies significant shifts in receptive and productive skills over time, reflecting broader transformations in pedagogical practices and learner engagement. Beyond examination outcomes, the research explores external influences such as technology integration, digital communication, and the increasing prevalence of informal linguistic environments. Particular attention is given to hybrid language forms which have become widespread among adolescents and present unique challenges for maintaining linguistic accuracy and quality. The exposition examines teachers' methodologies, their attitudes toward technological tools, and the pedagogical implications of these evolving trends. Bilingual education programs are analysed through a SWOT framework, assessing their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats in a globalized learning environment. While these programs offer extended language exposure and intercultural benefits, they also face constraints such as resource limitations and heightened pressure on both students and educators. Ultimately, the study underscores the urgent need for adaptive strategies, enhanced resources, and a balanced approach to language quality and quantity. Addressing these issues is essential for educational systems seeking to meet diverse learner needs and prepare students for success in an era of rapid linguistic and technological transformation.