LANGUAGES FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES AND SUSTAINED SILENT READING. A NEW CHALLENGE FOR THE MILLENNIAL STUDENTS

Alexandra COTOC Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca

Abstract. The teaching-learning process of languages for specific purposes has undergone a paradigm shift as the new generations of students are digital natives, using the new technologies all the time. In our paper, we present the profile and attributes of the new students, we introduce the concept of new pedagogy and its requirements and we present the innovative project of Sustained Silent Reading (SSR) run with the first-year students in a language for specific purposes course. Our aim was to encourage our students to read in a foreign language and to rewire them for an activity which develops their specialised knowledge, language and critical thinking skills, while striking a balance between their daily habits, which involve browsing, clicking from one digital space to another and scanning pages and sites, and carefully reading and analysing content.

Keywords: millennial identity, new pedagogy, languages for specific purposes, sustained silent reading