Title: Fine Art as a Teaching Tool for Russian as a Foreign Language: A Case study of the "History of Russian Fine Art" course
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Abstract:
Modern methodology asserts that the process of learning a language should be inseparable from the process of acquiring the culture of the language learned. Cultural immersion is easy for students who study in Russia, but it may become a challenge for those who learn Russian "at home" due to the lack of authentic linguistic and cultural environment. The task of a teacher is to find a tool to keep these students interested, motivated, and emotionally involved in the learning process.

This paper outlines the potential of the Fine Art used as a methodology for studying Russian as a foreign language. Fine Art is an integral part of Russian culture connected to other art forms such as literature, music, theater, and ballet. It provides students with a visual information that reflects the most significant facts of Russian history and social life, stimulates their imagination, and acts as a trigger to learn more about the language and the country.

The course "History of Russian Art" is directed towards the students who are moving from the basic level to ТРКИ-1. It aims to enable students to improve their speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills, and to expand Russian Language vocabulary while discovering new cultural and social contexts. The author focuses on the key features of the course and on the teaching objectives. The paper presents a typical scenario of a lesson and the evaluation system for the course.