

Teaching and Assessing Writing Strategies for Secondary School Students and Investigating Teachers' and Students' Attitudes towards Writing Practice

Mohammad Dayij Suleiman Al.gomoul

Tafila Technical University, Faculty of Education, Tafila, Jordan

KEYWORDS Assessment. Investigation. Teaching-learning Strategies. English as a Foreign Language. Foreign Language. Language 1. Language 2. Ministry of Education.

ABSTRACT This study aimed at investigating teaching and learning strategies followed by teachers of English and secondary school students in Tafila Directorate of Education concerning writing practice inside the classroom. It also aimed at identifying English language teachers' and students' attitudes towards teaching and learning writing and finding out the problems which face the secondary students when they start writing composition. From my own observation as a supervisor of English language for almost ten years in the Ministry of Education, I noticed that students in general, and secondary school students in particular find it difficult to write in English. They say they do not find reasonable ideas in English, and even if they find ideas, they fail to elaborate them into correct English. So, the impact is that they hate to write in English and, maybe, they start to form a kind of negative attitudes towards writing in English. The subject of the study consisted of all EFL teachers who teach secondary school students (first and secondary stages) in Tafila Directorate of Education with a total number of 45 teachers, and all secondary school students with a total number of 350 students. The sample of the study consisted of 10 teachers (5 males and 5 females) and 30 students (15 males and 15 females) chosen randomly to fit the purpose of the study. The instruments of the study were two questionnaires developed by the knowledge of the researcher to collect the data regarding strategies and techniques used by the teachers and students when presenting writing; one for the teachers and the other for the students. Teachers were asked to evaluate the students written tasks. The collected data was analyzed and discussed and findings were figured out as shown in the tables enclosed with this study. Recommendations were also drawn out at the end of the study.