

# Dedication

I dedicate this thesis to my family

## **Acknowledgements**

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## **Abstract**

This research aimed at investigating the difficulties that encounter university EFL learners in using English prepositions properly in their study, at Sudan university of science and technology, college of languages, department of English, second year students. To investigate these difficulties the researcher uses experimental and descriptive analytical method, statistical package for social science (SPSS) and the data of this study was collected randomly about 50 students, and 30 teachers, the researcher used test for students and questionnaire for teachers. The study concluded that, the majority of university EFL learners have errors in using English prepositions, and prepositions usage in fact, creates some difficulties to university EFL learners, also the influence of L1 on L2; university EFL learners have led to weakness in using prepositions. Based on the above findings, the study recommended that, University teachers should use different methods for teaching English prepositions. Teachers should encourage their learners in using preposition activities inside the class. University EFL learners should pay attention to use and understand the meaning of prepositions properly. Syllabus designers should design full syllabus for teaching English prepositions at universities. Universities should device a system to evaluate the learners' performances.

## مستخلص البحث

هدفت الدراسة لتقصي الصعوبات التي تواجه طلاب اللغة الانجليزية لغة اجنبية في استخدام حروف الجر , و تخص طلاب جامعة السودان للعلوم و التكنولوجيا ,كلية اللغات قسم اللغة الانجليزية ,السنة الثانية ,و لتقصي هذه الصعوبات قام الباحث باستخدام المنهج التجريبي والوصفي الكمي والحزم الاحصائية للعلوم الاجتماعية لتحليل البيانات ,وتتكون عينة الدراسة من خمسين طالبا يدرسون في السنة الثانية وتم اختيارهم بطريقة عشوائية ,وايضا ثلاثين معلما من داخل الجامعة ,قسم اللغة الانجليزية. استخدم الباحث اختبارا لطلاب السنة الثانية في قسم اللغة الانجليزية ,واستخدم ايضا استبياننا لاساتذة اللغة الانجليزية , وقد توصل الباحث الى عدة نتائج منها ان اغلبية طلاب السنة الثانية يعانون من ضعف واضح واخطاء في استخدام حروف الجر الانجليزية , واستخدام حروف الجر بشكل خاطئ نتج منه بعض من المشاكل و صعوبات لطلاب الجامعة , وايضا من النتائج تداخل اللغة الام مع اللغة الثانية ,ومن النتائج التي تحصل عليها الباحث ان طلاب الجامعة يعانون من ضعف واضح في فهم واستخدام حروف الجر , وايضا المنهج غير كافي لتغطية الصعوبات. وبعد التحليل والنقاش لتغطية هذه الصعوبات ,اوصي الباحث ببعض التوصيات منها: علي اساتذة الجامعة استخدام مناهج واضحة وفعالة في تدريس حروف الجر الانجليزية.علي اساتذة الجامعة تشجيع الطلاب وتدريبهم على الانشطة في استخدام حروف الجر داخل القاعات. علي طلاب الجامعة الذين يدرسون في قسم اللغة الانجليزية الاهتمام باستخدام وفهم حروف الجر بصورة صحيحة .على الجامعة تصميم مناهج متكاملة لسد النقص فيما يتعلق بالصعوبات في حروف الجر ولكي تحل مشاكل الطلاب .من المفيد انشاء نظام لتقييم اداء الطلاب او الدارسين في معرفة واستخدام حروف الجر.

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## Definitions of Terms

<b>EFL</b>	English as A Foreign Language
<b>NNS</b>	None Native Speakers
<b>USA</b>	The United States of America
<b>MT</b>	Mother Tongue
<b>L1</b>	First Language
<b>L2</b>	Second Language
<b>PREP</b>	Prepositions
<b>CAH</b>	The Contrastive Analysis Hypotheses
<b>UK</b>	United Kingdom
<b>CONJ</b>	Conjunctions
<b>ANOVA</b>	Analysis of Variance
<b>SPSS</b>	Statistical Packages for Social Science
<b>SAS</b>	Statistical Analysis System
<b>SUST</b>	Sudan University of Science and Technology

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