



**Sudan University of Science and Technology**  
**College of Graduate Studies**

**Investigating Barriers that Cause Universities  
Students' Weak Speaking Performance**

تقصي الموانع التي تؤدي إلى ضعف القدرات الكلامية لطلاب الجامعات

**A Thesis Submitted in Fulfillment of the Requirements of Master Degree in  
Applied linguistics**

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## **Dedication**

This work is dedicated to my parents, the members of my family, it is gifted to my daughter and my son, it is also dedicated to all my relatives and friends.

## **Acknowledgement**

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## **Abstract**

This research was conducted among Sudanese university students majoring in English to investigate the barriers that cause weak speaking performance among them.

In this study a sample of 45 students participated in oral speaking test and 10 experts were interviewed. The two tools were used for primary data collection, while the secondary data were obtained from references, research papers. The results that were obtained by the study test revealed that students ability to speak was weak as a result of using inappropriate strategies in mastering speaking .In addition to that experts interview revealed that the textbooks 'SPINE series' that is taught at basic and secondary Stages in Sudan doesn't enable students to strengthen skills of spoken language as the activities designed for that purpose are not enough. So the study recommends that the students should adopt more effective strategies such as learning vocabulary in chunk of language, practicing speaking with each other and apply grammar rules unconsciously. Also the study suggests that the text book should be designed to be more integrated to develop all the language skills simultaneously.

Key words:*Speaking, Strategies, barriers, Spine*

## المستخلص

أجريت هذه الدراسة علي طلاب الجامعات السودانية الذين يتخصصون في دراسة اللغة الانجليزية لبحث العقبات التي تسبب الضعف في التحدث باللغة الانجليزية. تكونت عينة الدراسة من (45) طالباً من الجامعات السودانية شاركوا في اختبار التحدث باللغة الانجليزية. و أجريت مقابلات شخصية مع 10 خبراء. أستخدمت الأداةين لجمع البيانات الاولية، وتم الحصول على البيانات الثانوية من الكتب والمراجع والبحوث العلمية. وقد كشفت نتائج الاختبار ان الطلاب ضعيفين في التحدث باللغة الانجليزية نتيجة لاستخدامهم طرائق غير مناسبة في تعلمهم لهذه المهارة بالإضافة لذلك كشفت اللقاءات مع الخبراء أن الكتاب المدرسي المتمثل في سلسلة "SPINE" والتي تدرس في مرحلتي الاساس والثانوي في السودان لا تمكن الطلاب من صقل مهارات التحدث باللغة الانجليزية لان النشاطات التي صممت لهذا الغرض غير كافية. لذلك أوصت الدراسة بأن يستخدم الطلاب مهارات وطرائق اكثر فعالية مثل تعلم المفردات في صياغ لغوي وليست منفردة و ممارسة التحدث بينهم ، وتطبيق قواعد اللغة حتي تصبح جزء طبيعي من سلوكهم اليومي واقترحنا الدراسة أن يصمم الكتاب المدرسي ليصبح اكثر تكاملاً لتنمية كل المهارات مع بعضها البعض.

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