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List of Abbreviations

AFU AL-Fasir University

CCTE Canadian Council of Teachers of English

CM Communicative Method

CTA Current Traditional Approach

DM Direct Method

EFL English as a Foreign Language

ELPAV English Language Proficiency Assessment of Vocabulary

ELT English Language Teaching

ESL English as a Second Language

GPA Grade Point Average

GTM Grammar Translation Method

LCS Lexical Communication Strategies

MVT Multiple-Choice Vocabulary Test

SAARS Severe Acute Respiratory System

SPSS Statistical Package for Social Sciences

TL Target Language

VCM Vocabulary Control Movement

VCT Vocabulary Competence Test

VKT Vocabulary Knowledge Test

VLT Vocabulary Level Test

VST Vocabulary Size Test

WCT Writing Competence Test

Abstract

The purpose of this research is to investigate the correlation between lexical competence of some Sudanese university students and their writing quality in English. Since words are assumed to be the most fundamental factors for quality writing, this study has endeavoured to shed some light on the impact of vocabulary richness on the writing standard of the university students. The research data was obtained from two sources: vocabulary competence test and writing competence test, both of which have been conducted among the students of the English Department at the Faculty of Education, University of AL-Fashir. It has been statistically analysed by using SPSS programme, version 10.5.

The results have shown that although the overall performance of the students on both tests was found to be poor, lexically competent students have written excellent essays. The results have also indicated that learning only single words would not improve the students' writing proficiency, rather other aspects of the language have to be present. Likewise, the findings did confirm the research hypotheses.

مستخلص

إن الهدف من هذا البحث هو الكشف عن العلاقة الإرتباطية بين المقدرة المفرداتية لمجموعة من الطلاب السودانيين و جودة الكتابة. وبما أن المقدرة المفرداتية من العناصر الأساسية لجودة الكتابة، فإن هذا البحث بمثابة محاولة لتسليط الضوء على أثر الذخيرة المفرداتية على مستوى الكتابة بين الطلاب الجامعيين في اللغة الإنجليزية.

جُمعت مادة البحث بوسيلتين: إختبار المقدرة المفرداتية وإختبار جودة الكتابة وقد تم إجراء هذين الإختبارين وسط طلاب قسم اللغة الإنجليزية بكلية التربية - جامعة الفاشر حيث تم تحليل البيانات إحصائياً بإستخدام برنامج الحزمة الإحصائية للعلوم الإاجتماعية.

أوضحت نتائج الدراسة بأنه رغم أن المستوى العام للطلاب في الإختبارين كان ضعيفاً إلا أن الطلاب الذين أحرزوا درجات كبيرة في إختبار المقدرة المفرداتية كان أداؤهم مميزاً. وأيضاً أثبتت النتائج أنه ليس بالمقدرة المفرداتية فقط يمكن مساعدة الطلاب على جودة الكتابة ، بل يجب توفر العناصر الأخرى للغة . هذا و قد أثبتت النتائج صحة فروض البحث .