The Impact of Audiovisual Aids (materials) on the Promotion of Iranian EFL Learners' Intercultural Competence

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This study evaluates Iranian EFL learners' intercultural competence and reveals to what extent they are interculturally competent. So, it targeted Iranian EFL learners' cultural awareness to help them not only to pull out their strong and weak points of their intercultural competence, but also to find a way to have a successful communication with people who have different socio-cultural, regional, socioeconomic or linguistic backgrounds. Moreover, it intends to discuss the impact of audiovisual aids on the promotion of Iranian EFL learners' intercultural competence. The research method is based on a descriptive, quantitative and qualitative design and data collection was done via a questionnaire, observations and interviews. Fifty EFL learners were chosen after a QPT. Then they were randomly divided into experimental and control groups who answered a questionnaire as a pretest and a posttest. During the treatment, educational films were played for the experimental group to highlight the intercultural competence, as for the control group, as for the control group, the films were not classified and educational and were not specified the cultural points by the teacher. At last, the results were analyzed by nonparametric Mann-Whitney U Test. Findings revealed that, a) Iranian EFL learners became acquainted with their perceptions regarding the intercultural competence and b) the audiovisual aids especially classified educational films played a significant role in promoting Iranian EFL learners' intercultural competence. This study can be used by language teachers, syllabus designers, curriculum developers, and language learners.

Keywords : Audiovisual Aids (materials), Learners' Intercultural Competence

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