The Impact of Teaching Writing Strategies on Iranian EFL Learners' Writing Competence

Fatemeh Alizaadeh Kasari*,Mohammad Abdollahi-Guilani,

Writing is one of the main skills in language learning and it is utilized as a means of transferring the writer's knowledge to the audience. It is also agreed that writing is a highly complex and demanding process. The ability to write well is not naturally acquired except by practicing and learning through experience. Cohesive devices and coherences are necessary elements in writing since they link different clauses, sentences and paragraphs to make the thread of meaning the writer is trying to communicate obvious. These devices seem to be problematic for English language learners so this study aimed at investigating the effect of explicit teaching of cohesive devices and coherences on Iranian EFL learners' use of these features and the extent to which it can improve the learners' writing competence. For this purpose among 60 intermediate, two homogenous groups were formed. The experimental group had the advantage of attending a course on grammatical cohesive devices, coherences and a pretest and a posttest were administered at the beginning and at the end of the course. By comparing the results of the tests it was found that the instruction could promote the learners' use of cohesive devices, and it would help the learners develop more cohesive writings. Instruction of cohesion is very important for language learners because when students write compositions as course requirements, they need to establish clear relations between sentences and connect the statements together which shows the importance of teaching and using cohesive devices and coherences in writing. Those strategies in which were dealt with in this thesis were; coherence, cohesion and some cohesion strategies were as follows: (a) Major /Minor support; (b) Old / New information; (c) Transitional words; and (d) Referents.

Keywords : Teaching Writing Strategies, Iranian EFL Learners, Writing Competence

[Islamic Azad University, Rasht Branch - Thesis Database](#)