

A Comparative Study on the Perceptions of the Iranian EFL M.A. Students and Instructors on the Qualities of a Good English Instructor at M.A. Programs

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Effective learning is strongly related to effective teachers and effective teaching. In this concept, teachers' characteristics gain crucial importance in understanding and alleviating the problems and difficulties hindering students' long lasting learning process. This study attempted to characterize the qualities of a good English instructor as perceived by EFL teachers and students. It investigated whether EFL M.A. instructors and students had different views or attitudes toward the qualities of a good English instructor at M.A. programs. The participants were 50 EFL M.A. instructors and 50 EFL M.A. students. They were students and instructors currently studying and teaching at a number of universities in Rasht. The study used the descriptive analytic method. Different instruments were used to collect the data the participants, such as a questionnaire and an interview. The findings showed that learners and instructors of English had overlapping and at times divergent perceptions on important characteristics of a good English instructor. Both instructors and students perceived a good English language teacher as one who is academically and professionally qualified to teach English at university. Overlay, both students and instructors believed that a good instructor should be knowledgeable and also has the ability to convey it. This study helps instructors know their students' expectations and needs, so that they can understand how to improve their teaching skills.

Keywords : Instructors Perceptions, Iranian EFL, Qualities of Instructor, English Instructor

