

The Impact of Mobile Instant Messaging on Developing the Writing Ability in Iranian Upper-Intermediate EFL Learners

Mahsa Safari*,

This study was conducted to investigate the impact of mobile instant messaging on developing the writing ability in Iranian upper-intermediate EFL learners in Kish Language Institute, Fouman Branch, Iran. For this purpose, QPT was administered to 50 EFL learners, and 30 learners were chosen based on the QPT results, and they were divided into experimental and control groups, with 15 learners in each group. Next, both groups sat for writing pretest. The purpose of this test was to measure the learners' initial ability in writing. Holistic scoring was used in scoring students' essays. Afterwards, the Telegram™ application was used as a tool to encourage experimental group to interact during the course but control group received the traditional way of teaching writing. Finally, at the end of the course both groups sat for the posttest of writing. A t-test was run to examine the difference between the mean scores of the two groups on the posttest. The results revealed that the experimental group had a better performance. It was concluded the study that learners' writing improved more when they used Telegram™ application.

Keywords : messaging , Iranian upper-intermediate EFL learners, writing ability

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