

# **Analysis of Errors in English Writings Committed by Iranian Elementary EFL Learners**

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**In a second and foreign language setting, all language learners inevitably produce errors when they write or speak the second or foreign language. Therefore, systematic analysis of the errors is not only very valuable but also very useful in providing an insight into the process of the second or foreign language acquisition. Error analysis as a branch of applied linguistics is one of the most useful tools for describing and explaining errors made by speakers of other languages. This study aimed to identify and categorize the most committed errors appearing in the elementary level Iranian EFL learners' compositions. It also sought to identify the estimation of Iranian EFL teachers towards the learners' most committed errors and find any possible mismatch between the actual writing errors of learners and the most committed errors which were estimated by teachers. The participants of the study were 30 EFL male learners at Kish Language Institute in Rasht, Iran. Errors were classified into 11 categories to find out which types of errors are more frequent in the Iranian EFL learners' writing compositions. Findings showed that learners commit different errors with different degrees of occurrence. Grammatical errors were the most frequently occurring. The major cause of these errors was interference the learners' first language. In order to determine whether there were any statistically significant mismatch between Iranian EFL teachers' estimation with respect to the most committed errors of Iranian EFL learners and the actual learners' errors, a researcher made questionnaire was distributed among 20 teachers. The data were analyzed using the SPSS software. The chi-square goodness-of-fit test indicated that there were no statistically significant differences between the actual learners' errors and the teachers' estimation for the whole scale. According to the findings, the use of correct verbs and tenses should be absolutely clarified and emphasized in the EFL context. Moreover, some other errors such as capitalization, subject verb**

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agreement and spelling should be taken into account as well.

**Keywords : Systematic analysis,Using SPSS software**

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