

The Obstacles of Learning English Subject in
The 1st Grade Secondary School Students in
Saudi Arabia

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Contents

Abstract.....	2
Introduction.....	2
Literature review	2
Significance of Research.....	3
Research Questions	3
Research Methodology	4
Ethical Consideration.....	4
Limitations of the study	4
Expected Results.....	4
References.....	4
Appendix.....	5

Abstract

This study aims at inspecting the obstacles and the difficulties that the 1st grade Secondary School Students face in learning English Subject from the point of view of the students and teachers themselves .These obstacles will be determined by using questionnaire filled by the students and doing interviews with one teacher or more .

The importance of this study is that it sets a start to form a solid ground for specifying these obstacles in order to work on finding systematic ways to overcome them by those who are in charge of the educational process which are English Teachers, school's headmasters, curriculum designers and The Ministry of Education .

Introduction

English is the universal language around the globe whether for tourism, work or study. The high importance of the English language comes from the need to communicate with others and has become very important even in our country. So leading the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the development of English language and education. However, there are still many obstacles facing students and teachers which must be addressed. These obstacles may caused by students , teachers and the Department of Education in the Ministry of Education .

Literature review

The following researchers have discussed the issues with

After research I found a few books and researchers who were interested in an objective Among them :

Al- Seghayer (2011) stated in his book “English Teaching in Saudi Arabia” : " since English is not immediately relevant to their needs, students usually do not pay serious attention to learning the language as a subject matter. Their efforts are devoted to acquiring the minimal competency needed to pass to the next grade level and no attention is paid to other aspects of learning. As a result, they tend to memorize

grammatical rules, passages of written English, and vocabulary " (Al- Seghayer, 2011).

Ghazi (2008) in the research "impediments to creativity accented English secondary school in the teaching material from the standpoint of supervisors and teachers English Mecca" discussed one of the reasons impediments English Language Teaching and said: " the lack of goal for the purpose for which the mode of their English curriculum, Creativity has never been included in the Ladder objectives procedural not seen as a hub of the educational process, because that is not would only change the traditional thinking skills current, but that would change the method of teaching and authoring style decision and evaluation" (Ghazi, 2008).

Previous studies show that psychological aspect is one of the main obstacles. Furthermore, the lack of English curriculum goals also has a significant effect. The researcher has also found that another reason is the absence of applying technology in the learning process.

Significance of Research

English is considered as the first language worldwide, and it has become the second language in the Saudi society. Here lies the importance of our need to remove these obstacles to learning English better.

Research Questions

- What are the obstacles that prevent the evolution of the English language at 1st grade Secondary School Students in Saudi Arabia ?
- What are the factors that could help students to improve their English language ?

Research Methodology

The study is based on a questionnaire that seek the 1st grade Secondary School Students' opinions about the obstacles they are facing in learning English in addition to an interview with one of the English teachers or more .

Ethical Consideration

In this study, will be taking the approval of the school administration to work questionnaire in addition to maintaining the confidentiality of the names of teachers who were interviewed if they wish .

Limitations of the study

The study is limited to 1st grade secondary school students in Saudi Arabia .

Expected Results

It is expected that a lot of 1st grade Secondary school students will recall that the most important of these obstacles in the deterioration of their level of English are :

- Inefficiency of English curriculum in middle school.
- The psychological factor.
- The technical factor.
- The administration.
- Education curriculum.

It is also expected that one of the causes of these obstacles is the lack of teachers' training courses which plays an important role in improving their performance.

References

- Al- Seghayer, K. (2011). 8. In: *English Teaching in Saudi Arabia*. Riyadh: Hala Print CO. 175.
- Ghazi, S. . (2008). *Impediments to creativity accented English secondary school in the teaching material from the standpoint of supervisors and teachers English Mecca*. Available: <http://www.mediafire.com/view/?2t6hl4k35wtm0xh>. Last accessed 6 Nov 2013.

Appendix

• Questionnaire for students:

Choose the correct answer according to your opinion:

Obstacles to learning English are caused by:

- 1 - The psychological factor.
- 2 - The technical factor.
- 3 - The administrative agent.
- 4 - Education curriculum.
- 5 - All of the above.

• The interview with the teacher:

1 - Do you think that providing English teachers with more training courses will affect their performance and influence the teaching process?

2 - What are the obstacles that affects teaching English language for 1st grade Secondary School Students in Saudi Arabia?