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POTENTIAL ROLES OF MOTIVATION AND TEACHING STRATEGIES IN COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCIES AMONG PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS



DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA 2018

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Abstrak

Motivasi dan strategi pengajaran secara amnya dipercayai meningkatkan kecekapan komunikasi pelajar dalam pembelajaran Bahasa Inggeris sebagai bahasa asing. Namun, tiada bukti empirik yang mencukupi untuk menyokong tuntutan ini Kajian ini bertujuan untuk memberi tumpuan kepada kesan faktor motivasi dan strategi pengajaran tentang kecekapan komunikatif di kalangan mahasiswa di Palestin. Dalam Fasa Pertama, seratus lapan puluh peserta, yang sedang belajar bahasa Inggeris di tiga universiti di Palestin, menjawab satu soal selidik. Soal selidik itu merangkumi item-item yang diperolehi dari kajian Gardner (1985, 2001, 2004, 2006, 2007) Attitude/Motivation Test Battery (AMTB) dan item-item dari Dörnyei (2001), Cheng dan Dörnyei (2007) dan Guilloteaux dan Dörnyei (2008) yang mengaplikasikan kerangka strategi pengajaran untuk bahasa asing di bilik darjah. Dalam Fasa Kedua, enam responden, dari universiti yang sama, ditemuramah. Keputusan menunjukkan bahawa kecekapan komunikasi responden sangat dipengaruhi oleh motivasi. Selain itu, keputusan menunjukkan bahawa strategi pengajaran yang menyokong motivasi langsung tidak mempengaruhi kecekapan komunikatif pelajar, tetapi mempengaruhi motivasi mereka. Secara kesimpulannya, kajian ini menambah secara substantif kepada literatur mengenai faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi kecekapan komunikasi pelajar EFL dalam konteks Palestin.

Kata kunci: Kompetensi komunikatif, Motivasi, Strategi Pengajaran, Mahasiswa Palestin.

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Abstract

Motivation and teaching strategies are generally believed to enhance students" communicative competence in English as a foreign language; yet, there is not much empirical evidence to support this claim. The present study was intended to focus on the effects of motivational factors and teaching strategies on the communicative competence among the Palestinian undergraduates. In the First Phase, one hundred and eighty participants, who are studying English language in three Palestinian universities, answered a questionnaire. The questionnaire included items derived from Gardner"s 1985, 2001, 2004, 2006, 2007 Attitude/Motivation Test Battery AMTB and items from Dörnyei 2001, Cheng and Dörnyei 2007 and Guilloteaux and Dörnyei 2008 teaching strategies framework for foreign language classrooms. In the Second Phase, 6 participants, from same universities, were interviewed. The quantitative results indicated that participants" communicative competence is significantly affected by motivation and teaching strategies. Also, the qualitative results indicated that teaching strategies do not directly affect students" communicative competence, but rather affect their motivation. Consequently, the current study added substantively to the literature concerning the effects of motivation and teaching strategies in Communicative Competencies among EFL learners in the Palestinian context, and some suggested procedures and suggestions that help improve learners" communicative competences.

Keywords: Communicative competence, Motivation, Teaching strategies, Palestinian undergraduates.

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List of Abbreviations

English Foreign Language (EFL) English as Second Language (ESL) English Language Teaching (ELT) Second Language (L2) First Language (L1) Gardner"s Attitude Motivation Test Battery(AMTB) Simulated Oral Proficiency Interview (SOPI) Second Language Acquisition (SLA) Foreign Language Classroom Anxiety Scale (FLCAS) Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) Grammar-Translation Methods (GTM) Qualitative (Qual) Quantitative (QUAN) Universiti Utara Malaysia Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) Standard Deviations (SD) Standard Errors (SE)

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

Over the past few decades, the English language has earned its glory as a lingua franca (Musa, 2016). It is one of the reasons why English language has become an international language. The number of second language speakers of English language has surpassed the number of English native speakers. The key reason why most of the countries in the world have over-accentuated English language is because this language is used as a tool to advance in the fields like commerce, arts and sciences, education, law, and technology (Yule, 2012).

In the Palestinian context, being proficient in English communication is becoming more important, as in other countries around the world. It is worth noting that the Palestinian government has officially given English the status of a Foreign Language (EFL) in the educational and administrative systems and it plays a vital role in the EFL classroom-based activities (Nafi, Qabaja, & Al-Kar, 2016). This accommodates the reality of the Palestinian educational policies, which has considered the essentialness of English communicative competence of the Palestinian EFL learners to the extents, the government offer to them grants in order to improve their speaking skills (Al-Eiadeh, Sobh, Al-Zoubi, & Al-Khasawneh, 2016). In reality, the point of disbursing the grants by the Palestinian government is to develop her EFL learners" competence in order to motivate them to successfully enroll in places which offers English medium course (Ministry of Education and Higher Education, 2010).

Communicating effectively in a language requires the speaker"s good understanding of linguistic, sociolinguistic and socio-cultural aspects of that language. This

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Appendix A

DESCRIPTIVE STATEMENTS DETAILS TABLE

Section 1: Motivation Statements

Statements	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Instructional motivation Q1. I feel highly motivated when I speak English as I feel my English grammar is good. Q2. The English teacher makes sure students are on the right track as they work on speaking tasks. Q3. The English teacher adopts a friendly, non-authoritarian manner. Q4. The English teacher presents materials in an interesting way. Q5. The teacher encourages students to play speaking games					
in class. Q6. The teacher supplements the students" textbook with authentic materials. Q7. The English curriculum focuses on English-speaking skills.					
Q8. The English textbook I use now is interesting. Q9. I like the way I learn English now.	ersiti (Jtara	Mala	ysia	
Q10. Studying English is important to me because it will allow me to be more at ease with native speakers of English. Q11. Studying English is important because I will be able interact more easily with native					
speakers of English. Q12. I think native speakers of English are kind and warm hearted.					
Integrative motivation					
Q13. The teacher links concepts back to students" experiences. Q14. The teacher chooses topics that he/she thinks are relevant to students" lives.					
Q15. The teacher does not always follow the students" textbook.					

- O16. The teacher allows students to choose topics for conversation.
- O17. When I am studying English in class, I ignore distractions and pay attention to my task.
- Q18. I make a point of trying to understand all the English I see and hear.
- Q19. I keep up to date with English by working on it almost every day.
- Q20. I want to learn English so well that it will become natural to me.
- Q21. It is more important for me to be able to speak English than to write it.
- O22. Speaking English important because I will need it for my career.
- Q23. Students are completely aware of the value of speaking English.
- O24. Studying English important because it will make me more educated.
- Q25. In my English class, the teacher approaches individual encouraging remarks.
- Q26. The English teacher gives everyone a turn to speak so that check he/she can students" understanding.
- Q27. The English teacher shows interest in students" personal lives.
- Q28. I do not get anxious when I have to answer a question in my English class.
- Q29. It does not worry me that other students in my class seem to speak English better than I do.
- Q30. I am never anxious that the other students in class will laugh at me when I speak English.
- Q31. I never feel hesitant to ask questions in front of the class.
- Q32. When I have a problem understanding something in my English class, I always ask my teacher for help.

Q33. I enjoy the activities of my English class much more than those of my other classes.

Q34. I want to be fluent in English.

Q35. Studying English is important to me because I will be able to participate more freely in the cultural activities of native speakers of English.

Q36. I would like to know more native speakers of English.

Q37. The more I get to know native speakers of English, the more I want to be fluent in their language.



Section 2: Teaching Strategies Statements

Communicative style

The teacher addresses questions to the whole class rather than selected to individuals.

O39. The teacher surprises students with new speaking activities in order to maintain their interest.

Q40. It is better to receive feedback from my classmates and teacher.

Class activities

Q41. The teacher gives students enough time in class to practice their speaking skills.

O42. The teacher tests students speaking skills throughout the year.

Q43. Working in small groups increases my self-confidence.

Feed back

Q44. The teacher provides positive feedback.

Q45. The teacher allows students

Q46. Feedback helps me develop my speaking competence.

O47. I always notice the feedback in a conversation.

Group work

Q48. gives The teacher opportunities for collaborative work.

O49. The teacher gives opportunities for negotiation among peers in groups.

Q50. I most enjoy speaking English during small group work.

Q51. Working in small groups helps me improve my speaking skills.

Section 3: Communicative Competence Statements

Grammatical competence

Q52. When I speak English, I know how English words are formed.

Q53. When I speak English, I am sure that I can put words together to form a phrase or a sentence correctly.

Q54. When I speak English, I feel that my English grammar is good.

Pragmatic competence

Q55. When I speak English, I am confident that I can use appropriate words and phrases in different social situations.

Q56. Usually, when I speak English, I can give a command, complain and invitation according to the situation.

Q57. During a conversation, I know when and how to be polite and formal.

Sociolinguistic competence

Q58. When I speak English, I am confident that I know how to link the words correctly.

Q59. I understand the relationships among the different meanings in a conversation, such as literal meanings, purposes of communication and attitudes.

Q60. When I speak English, I understand and can use many words.

Strategic competence

Q61. In a conversation when I forget a word in English, I tend to use different words.

Q62. In a conversation, when I forget a word in English, I tend to translate it from Arabic.

Q63. In a conversation, when I forget a word in English, I tend to use gestures to show that I know what I am saying.

Appendix B

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Constructs

Semi-structured interview questions

(1) Students reason to speak English outside the classroom

Do you speak English outside of the classroom?

Why do you speak English outside the classroom?

(2) Teacher"s focus on the pedagogical aspect regarding spoken English

What teaching strategies will motivate you to learn English?

Do you think the teacher put in much effort to teach English in the college?

Do you think English is paid enough attention by teachers in the college? To what extent does your teacher guide you to learn English?

(3) The benefits of speaking English to learn English?

To what extent do you think English language is important in speaking?

(4) Factors supporting motivations

What and who motivates you to speak English outside the classroom?

Appendix C

CONSENT LETTER A



Dear Sir/ Madam,

This is to certify that Mr. Hazem Hasan Ahmad Hushayish is a PhD student in Applied Linguistics Program, University Utara Malaysia. He is writing to request permission to collect research data with a questionnaire and interview from your organization in order to obtain data needed, and participant responses will be collected anonymously, He is currently studying "EFFECT OF MOTIVATION AND TEACHING STRATEGIES ON COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCIES AMONG PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS" under the supervision of Dr. Manvender Kaur and Dr. Rafizah Rawian. Your cooperation will be highly appreciated. I would be pleased to share the results of this study with you if you are interested.

If you have any questions concerning this study, you can contact the researcher at +966533018470 or hushayishh@ksau-hs.edu.sa

Sincerely,

Hazem Hushayish

CONSENT LETTER B



Dear participant,

Palestine.

I am a PhD student in the English Department at Universiti Utara Malaysia. I am conducting a study about EFFECT OF MOTIVATION AND TEACHING STRATEGIES ON COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCIES AMONG

PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS and I would like you to take part in this study.

The study will be conducted in your classroom during the class time. You will be asked to fill out one package of questionnaires for this study. The expected duration of your participation is thirty minutes. There are no foreseeable risks or discomforts if you agree to participate in this study. You will participate only if you want to. You have the right to withdraw from the study at any time without penalty.

By participating in this study, you will be giving researchers and educators valuable information regarding POTENTIAL ROLES OF MOTIVATION AND TEACHING STRATEGIES IN COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCIES AMONG

PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. In addition, this study can serve to improve instructional methods and approaches in the teaching of foreign languages in

The records of this study will be kept private and confidential to the extent permitted by law. In any sort of report, the researcher might publish, he will not include any information that will make it possible to identify a participant. Research records will be stored securely and only the researcher will have access to the records. Thank you for your participation. Sincerely, Hazem Hushayish 1. I confirm that I have read and understand the information sheet for the above study and have had the opportunity to ask questions. 2. I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time, without giving reason. 3. I agree to take part in the above study. Universiti Utara Malaysia Signature Data