

The Impact of Explicit Instruction of Discourse Markers on Verbal Communication of EFL Learners

By

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M. Phil. (Applied Linguistics)

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of **M. Phil in Applied Linguistics.**

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Abstract

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The research study on impact of explicit method for teaching of discourse markers was conducted at University of Education, Bank Road Campus Lahore. The study investigates the impact of explicit teaching method for teaching discourse markers on different groups of the English language learners. It was hypothesized that explicit method of teaching would be more effective than the traditional method for teaching of spoken discourse markers. Forty learners

were taken as a sample and were divided into control and experimental groups. The treatment was given to the experimental group and they were taught with the help of various activities comprising drills, role plays and practice.

The treatment of explicit teaching was given to the experimental group one hour daily for thirty days in the foreign language while no instruction in the target language was given to the control group. The assumptions were verified by using IELTS free speaking interactive test used as a tool for measuring the scores of pretest as well as posttest after treatment of four weeks. To investigate the impact of explicit instruction for teaching of spoken discourse markers, the significance of difference between the scores of groups at 0.05 level was tested by applying inferential statistics. Statistical analysis revealed that EFL learners of control and experimental group were nearly equivalent in their proficiency regarding the use of discourse markers in the beginning of treatment phase. The performance of the experimental group was significantly better than the control group in posttest proving the effectiveness of explicit teaching techniques vs. traditional teaching method. Henceforth, the final result of the study indicated that explicit method was considered more suitable for instruction of spoken discourse markers in comparison with traditional teaching mode.

APPROVAL SHEET

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Dedicated

to

*my mother who has always been the
main source of inspiration behind all
my efforts and achievements.*

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