M.A THESIS IN LINGUISTICS

"COMMUNICATIVE APPROACH FOR IMPROVING LISTENING AND SPEAKING SKILLS OF GRADE 6E STUDENS AT AL – MARJAN MUSLIM LADIES COLLEGE, SAMMANTHURAI"

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Abstract

English is an international language. It is used in Sri Lanka for many purposes. It is taught as a second language at Sri Lankan government schools. As the main function of a language is communication, this thesis attempts to measure the effect of implementation of the Communicative Approach for improving listening and speaking skills of grade 6E students at Al – Marjan Muslim Ladies College. In order to find out its suitability, it was necessary to do a comparison in between the teaching methodologies.

For doing this research, the qualitative research methodology was used. Therefore, questionnaires, interviews, case study, classroom observations and pre – test and post - test were used to gather information from the target group. It was particularly hypothesized that the students taught according to the Communicative Approach scored higher in the post - test than the pre – test. And there would be statistically significant differences. At the end of experiment, the Communicative Approach had positively affected the students' listening and speaking skills. The experiment lasted approximately seven weeks of the third term of 2014. In analyzing data, an attempt was made to connect the findings of my research with the theories that come in teaching English as a second language.

Finally, it was understood that Communicative Approach is the most suitable teaching method in developing listening and speaking skills of grade 6E students at Al – Marjan Muslim Ladies College, Sammanthurai.