M.A.THESIS IN LINGUISTICS

PROBLEMS IN USING
SIMPLE PAST TENSE AND
PRESENT PERFECT TENSE:

A STUDY OF TRADE SECTOR STUDENTS IN COLLEGES OF TECHNOLOGY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES

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Abstract

A language is a unique phenomenon that transcends all man-made limitations such as caste and creed. The competency of an international language is an exposure for universal communication. In the process of acquiring competency in any language, significance of learning grammar, specially tenses is at the upmost level and it is essential in deed.

This research study focuses on ways and means of improving the knowledge of usage of tenses with respect to overcome the writing problems in English language of trade sector students in Colleges of Technology (CoTs) and Technical Colleges (Tc s).

In order to achieve this aim electrical and electronic students of CoT Kurunegala were selected as the target group to represent all the trade sector students. A pre-test was held for those students to select target grammar structure. A new approach of teaching was created by choosing some exisisting teaching methodology and combining them together in an appropriate way. It was applied to develop the target grammar structure of the target group of students.

A Mid Test and a Post – Test were held as the evaluation process of this study.

As a consequence of this study, it is identified the fact that this approach of teaching provides the opportunity to develop writing skills not only accurately but also appropriately and meaningfully.