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ABSTRACT

The focus of this study is to identify the errors which are made by the undergraduates of the University of Peradeniya while speaking English as a Second Language. Basically the study aims at analyzing errors in syntactical order and pronunciation in speaking English Language and how their mother tongue interferes in these errors in relation to the social background and the age at which they start learning English. Questionnaires, live speeches and interviews were used as methodology for gathering the necessary data for the study. Findings reveal that the mother tongue interferes in speaking the Second Language depending on the learner's social background and age at which he/she starts learning the Second Language.

Key words: Mother Tongue, Interference, Second Language, Social Background, Age, pronunciation, Syntactical order.