M.A. THESIS IN LINGUISTICS

MOTIVATIONAL FACTORS OF STUDENTS LEARNING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

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ABSTRACT

This research contains the study of the perception of the importance of motivation in English Language Learning in Lumbini College Colombo 5. Everybody needs to have motivation and a reason for action. Second and foreign language learners should be offered the opportunity to be motivated and to fulfill their learning orientations. The purpose of this study is to examine the role of integrative and instrumental motivation for learning English of Advanced level students of Srilanka. Additionally the study aims to recognize the factors effecting the students' motivation. Thirty students participated in completing a questionnaire reflecting their objective for learning English and what effects negatively their English learning motivation.

As expected, the data revealed that students' instrumental motivation is very much higher than the integrative motivation. One of the most significant findings of the research was that the teacher's personality occupying the first place in the students' demotivating factors. Findings of the study proved that the teachers' rapid speech and difficulties with the subject (English) aspects such as vocabulary, structures and spellings too are affecting factors in terms of demotivating students. Based on the findings, recommendations and some implications which are of significance to educators and policymakers as well as to researchers are provided. At last, it is hoped that the results of this study could be much benefit for developing teaching and learning English in the schools of Srilanka.