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MASTER OF ARTS THESIS IN LINGUISTICS

**A LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS ON EFFECTIVE
TECHNIQUES TO TEACH SIMPLE TENSES
IN ENGLISH**

**SPECIAL ATTENTION FOCUS ON GRADE IO STUDENTS
OF GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS**

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Abstract

English language is being taught in Sri Lankan education system from grade 3 -13. Even though English is taught as one of the main subjects, the enthusiasm, dedication and interest among majority of students in government schools cannot be observed like other subjects. Students are inclined to practice only writing & reading skills in the classroom. But listening & speaking skills of students are very weak. However the objective of this research is to seek effective techniques to teach simple tenses which are concerned as basis of English language and improve practical knowledge of four skills by changing aforesaid situation. For this task, two groups of students (25 for each) from Siripiyaratana central college, and Rajasingha national college were used. These two groups consist of boys and girls in equal number. Groups were named as controlled and non-controlled. The pre-test was given for both groups without teaching lessons. After that selected activities of techniques Co-operative group and Peer coaching were taught for students of controlled group. Selected activities of traditional techniques were taught for students of non-controlled groups. After three months of time post-test was given for both groups. After collecting data, analysis was done. When analyzing the results of two groups which got for pre-test and post-test statistically and linguistically, it was able to observe the capabilities of writing, reading, speaking, and listening skills in English. Through this research it was observed, twenty students from controlled group have improved above skills when comparing with ten students from non-controlled group. This highlights how far modern techniques involve gradually when comparing with traditional techniques to improve above mentioned four skills which use to measure language proficiency. Finally the research emphasizes techniques Co-operative group and Peer coaching directly involve improving practical awareness of four skills rather than other traditional techniques which are currently used.