

M.A. THESIS IN LINGUISTICS

**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF USING
GROUP WORK IN TEACHING
VAOCABULARY TO THE PRIMARY
STUDENTS**

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Abstract

The study aimed to investigate the effectiveness of using group work in teaching vocabulary to the primary students. To answer the questions of the study, the researcher adopted the quasi experimental method. The sample of the study consisted of 84 grade three students, both male and female, distributed into two groups, the two groups were the control and the experiment which were randomly selected from a purposive sample from Minu/ Udugampola primary school. Group work was used to teach vocabulary to the experimental group while the traditional method was used to teach the control group during the experimental period. Vocabulary achievement tests were designed and validated to be used as pre, post tests and continuous assessments to measure the development of the vocabulary teaching. Data of the study was analyzed using t-test independent sample, which was used to determine the significant differences between the groups. By using the Etta square technique the effect size was measured to find out the effect of the group work on the vocabulary teaching in the experimental group. The final results of the study indicated that there was a statistically significant difference between the control group and the experimental in favour of the experimental group. The effect size measured using the Etta square indicated 'large' effect of group work on teaching vocabulary. Further the results reflected the effectiveness of using group work in teaching vocabulary to the grade three students. In the light of the results the study recommended the necessity of using group work in teaching vocabulary. It also suggests that further research should be conducted to examine the effectiveness of group work on improving other skills of the English language.

Key words : vocabulary, group work, primary students.