

Students' Preference in learning Grammar: Teacher-Centered VS Student-Centered

Sewwandi Emalka Jayaweera¹

It is proved that very little can be conveyed without proper Grammar in a language; therefore many language teachers pay their attention to make their students perfect in Grammar. English language teachers also focus mainly on teaching English Grammar in ESL classrooms. Today, the concept of "Teacher-centered classrooms" gains less value in the process of teaching and the "Student-centered classrooms" are considered to be more beneficial, in practicing Grammar. It is essential to examine whether the students prefer to learn Grammar in a "Student-centered classroom" rather than in a "Teacher-centered classroom"; in order to make students experts in Grammar. This research will examine the preference of ESL students about the usage of "Student-centered classrooms" to learn Grammar at the ELTU of the University of Kelaniya. The researcher will conduct a Grammar lesson, where the students will be given an opportunity to create a story by using a particular tense with other grammar components, without teaching proper structures or rules. The correct structure, rules and the usage of that particular tense will be explained through the mistakes of students. Then the researcher will conduct another Grammar lesson where she will provide all the necessary notes where the contribution of the students will be less. A questionnaire will be distributed to those students to explore their preferences in learning Grammar. This research will facilitate ESL lectures at the ELTU as the findings will be an assist to conduct ESL lectures in an effective and beneficial way for students.

Key words- Learning Grammar, Teacher-centered, Student-centered, Students' preference

¹ Assistant Lecturer, English Language Teaching Unit, University of Kelaniya