Effect of Learning Environment in Learning English as a

Second Language: A study based on the Undergraduates of the

Faculty of Visual Arts, University of the Visual and Performing

Arts, Sri Lanka

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B.A.Ajantha Niroshani FGS/04/02/04/2009/001

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ABSTRACT

The research is carried out to investigate 'The Effects of Learning Environment when English is learnt as a Second Language', and the study is based on 30 undergraduates of the Faculty of Visual Arts, University of the Visual and Performing Arts. The Collection of data is done by administering a questionnaire. The teachers engaged in teaching ESL in four national universities were interviewed individually to collect data. The aim of the research, hypothesis and specific objectives of the study were targeted to examine the effect of learning environment in the case of second language learning along with the theoretical underpinnings.

The first chapter established the required background to the present study. Further, a discussion of the aim of the research, hypothesis and specific objectives of the study was also discussed in this chapter.

The second chapter of the thesis provides a review of literature that examines the concept of learning environment and second language learning along with the theoretical underpinnings in order to identify the scope of the present study with a logical and a realistic background.

The third chapter deals with the methodology applied in the present study where the sample selected for the research and the research tools are discussed in detail.

After the methodology the fourth chapter is dedicated to presentation and analysis of data collected through questionnaires and interviews.

The fifth chapter presents the findings of the present study aligned with the objectives discussed in the first chapter. Further, the practical implications of the findings of the study and recommendations are also discussed in the fifth chapter. The chapter ends with a presentation of the limitations of the present study and suggestions for further research possibilities.

Key words: ESL, Learning environment, attitudes, social stigmas, potential utility