Teachers' Attitudes Towards Teaching English in the First Four Grades in Jordan

By

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Abstract

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This study was conducted to describe the EFL teachers' attitudes toward teaching English as a foreign language in the first four grades of the Primary stage in Jordan. Indeed, this study attempted to answer the following questions:

1. What are teachers' attitudes toward teaching English as a foreign language in the first four grades?

2. Are there any Significant Statistical differences in teachers' attitudes based on their educational level, sex, experience, and marital status?

The sample of the study consisted of (89) EFL teachers (58 females, 31 males) at the Primary Stage in Irbid Second Directorate of Education. The study was conducted during the foreign semester of the school year 2000/2001.

For the purpose of this study, an evaluative questionnaire developed by the researcher was used. This questionnaire consisted of two parts and (20) items.
These items were classified under one category, teachers' attitudes toward teaching English as a foreign language in the first four grades in Jordan.

To answer the questions of the study, basic descriptive statistical means, standard deviations, and four-way analysis of variances (ANOVA) were computed.

The findings of this study indicated that

1. Teachers' attitudes toward teaching English in the First Four Grades were positive According to all the Tables.

2. There were no statistically significant differences in the EFL teachers' attitudes toward teaching English due to:
   a. Educational level (community college, B.A. or higher education) at (α = 0.05).
   b. Sex (females or males) at (α = 0.05).
   c. Experience (less than five years, 6-10 years, or 11 years and higher) at (α = 0.05).
   d. Marital status (single or married) at (α = 0.05).

On the basis of the results of this study, it is recommended that teaching English as a foreign language should start from the first grade in order to help children master basic sounds pronunciation. Besides, the EFL teachers should attend workshop programs every other semester without any interruption.