

NEAR EAST UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE SCHOOL of EDUCATION SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT of ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

**TEACHERS' AND STUDENTS' ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE USE OF L1
(KURDISH) IN EFL CLASSROOMS IN COMPUTER INSTITUTES IN
NORTHERN IRAQ**

MASTER THESIS

RENAS IHSAN MOHAMMAD

NICOSIA

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Supervisor: Assist. Prof. Dr. Çise Çavuşoğlu

Nicosia

June 2013

We certify that we have read the thesis submitted by Renas Ihsan Mohammad titled “Teachers’ and Students’ Attitudes Towards the Use of L1 (Kurdish) in EFL Classrooms in Computer Institutes in Northern Iraq” and that in our combined opinion it is fully adequate, in scope and in quality, as a thesis for the degree of Master of Arts.

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all information in this document has been obtained and presented in accordance with academic rules and ethical conduct. I also declare that, as required by these rules and conduct, I have fully cited and referenced all materials and results that are not original to this study.

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Finally, I would like to dedicate this study to my wife Nina. I will never forget her tolerance.

ABSTRACT

TEACHERS' AND STUDENTS' ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE USE OF L1 (KURDISH) IN EFL CLASSROOMS IN COMPUTER INSTITUTES IN NORTHERN IRAQ

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The purpose of this study was to examine teachers' and students' attitudes towards the use of first language (L1) in English as a Foreign Language (EFL) classrooms in computer institutes (CIs) in northern Iraq and explore whether gender, age and years of experience in teaching were factors affecting the attitudes of teachers teaching in CIs. In addition, it attempted to investigate whether gender and year of students were factors affecting the students' attitudes.

Two researcher-made surveys were used separately to examine the attitudes of teachers' and students' towards the issue. These surveys consisted of 27 items for the students and 29 items for teachers. Data collected from 573 students and 20 teachers in seven CIs in northern Iraq were analysed using descriptive statistics. T-tests and ANOVA analysis were carried out to find possible differences between groups. The results revealed that teachers had positive attitudes towards the use of English in the classroom while students appeared to have positive attitudes towards the use of L1 in the classroom in general. While teachers believed that English should be used extensively in the classroom, they believed that Kurdish could be used for clarifying some new phrases and expressions, and expressing ideas and emotions only. Students, on the other hand, preferred the use of L1 for simplifying difficult tasks, explaining unknown vocabulary, and explaining difficult concepts and ideas.

Keywords: Teacher attitudes, student attitudes, first language, target/foreign language, English language teaching, Computer Institutes.

ÖZ

KUZEY IRAK'TAKI BİLGİ SAYAR ENSTİTÜLERİNDE ÖĞRETMEN VE ÖĞRENCİLERİN İNGİLİZCE DERSLERİNDE ANADİLİN KULLANIMINA KARŞI OLAN TUTUMLARI

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Bu araştırmanın amacı Kuzey Irak'ta eğitim vermekte olan Bilgisayar Enstitüleri'nde (BE) ders veren öğretmenlerin ve öğrenim gören öğrencilerin yabancı dil olarak verilen İngilizce derslerinde anadil kullanımına olan tutumlarını incelemektir. Bu bağlamda, cinsiyet, yaş ve deneyimin, öğretmenlerin tutumlarını etkileyen faktörler olup olmadıkları sorgulanmış, cinsiyet ve öğrenim görülen seviyenin ise öğrencilerin tutumlarını etkileyip etkilemediğine bakılmıştır.

Araştırmacı tarafından öğrencilerin ve öğretmenlerin tutumlarını ölçmek amacıyla iki ayrı anket hazırlanmıştır. Öğrencilere verilen anket 27, öğretmenlere verilen anket ise 29 maddeden oluşmaktadır. Kuzey Irak'ta bulunan yedi BE'den, toplam 573 öğrenci ve 20 İngilizce öğretmeni ankete katılmıştır. Veriler betimsel istatistik yöntemleri kullanılarak analiz edilmiş olup, gruplar arası olası farklar t-test ve ANOVA testleri ile incelenmiştir. Araştırmanın sonuçları genel olarak öğretmenlerin sınıf içerisinde İngilizce'nin kullanılmasına karşı olumlu tutuma sahip olduğunu gösterirken, öğrencilerin ise anadil kullanımına karşı olumlu tutum sergilediğini ortaya çıkarmıştır. Öğretmenler İngilizce'nin yaygın olarak kullanılmasından yana görüş bildirmelerine rağmen, Kürtçe'nin yeni sözcük grupları ve deyimlerin açıklanması ve fikirlerle duyguların dile getirilmesi için kullanılabileceğini savunmuşlardır. Diğer taraftan öğrenciler, anadilin zor görevleri basitleştirilmesinde, bilinmeyen kelimelerin açıklanmasında ve karmaşık fikir ve kavramların açıklanmasında kullanılabileceğini görüşündedirler.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Öğretmen tutumları, öğrenci tutumları, anadil, yabancı/hedef dil İngilizce öğretimi, Bilgisayar Enstitüleri

TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPROVAL OF THE THESIS.....	i
DECLARATION.....	ii
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....	iii
ABSTRACT.....	iv
ÖZ	v
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	vi
LIST OF APPENDICES.....	ix
LIST OF TABELS.....	x
ABBREVIATIONS.....	xii
CHAPTER INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.0 Introduction.....	1
1.1 Computer Institutes.....	1
1.2 My experience as an English language teacher.....	2
1.3 Different approaches to the use of L1 in EFL classrooms	3
1.3.1 Arguments in favour of including the L1.....	3
1.3.2 Arguments in favour of excluding the L1.....	5
1.4 The problem.....	8
1.5 Aim of the study.....	9
1.6 Significance of the study.....	10
1.7 Limitation of the study.....	10
1.8 Conclusion.....	10
CHAPTER LITERATURE REVIEW.....	12
2.0 Introduction.....	12
2.1 Language Teaching Methods and the Use of L1 in English classroom... 12	
2.1.1 Grammar Translation Method.....	13
2.1.2 The Direct Method.....	14
2.1.3 The audio-Lingual method.....	14
2.1.4 Communicative Language Teaching.....	15
2.1.5 Other Approaches to Foreign Language Learning and Teaching.....	16

2.2 Code-switching in EFL classroom.....	18
2.3 Attitudes towards L1 use in EFL classrooms.....	20
2.3.1 Teachers' attitudes towards the use of L1.....	20
2.3.2 Students' attitudes towards the use of L1.....	22
2.4 Reasons for using L1 in EFL classroom.....	23
2.5 Factors influencing the use of L1 in EFL classrooms.....	25
2.5.1 Proficiency level.....	25
2.5.2 Gender.....	26
2.5.3 Age of students.....	27
2.6 Conclusion.....	27
CHAPTER III METHODOLOGY.....	29
3.0 Introduction.....	29
3.1 Research Design.....	29
3.2 Setting.....	29
3.3 Participants.....	30
3.4 Data Collection.....	32
3.4.1 Students' Questionnaire.....	33
3.4.2 Teachers' Questionnaire.....	34
3.5 Validity and Reliability.....	35
3.6 Ethical Issues.....	36
3.7 Data Analysis.....	36
3.8 Conclusion.....	36
CHAPTER IV RESULTS and DISCUSSIONS.....	38
4.0 Introduction.....	38
4.1 When do Teachers prefer the Use of L1 in EFL Classrooms.....	38
4.1.1 Teachers' Attitudes Towards the Use of L1 in EFL Classrooms based on experience.....	42
4.1.2 Teachers' Attitudes Towards the Use of L1 in EFL Classrooms based on gender.....	43

4.1.3 Teachers' Attitudes Towards the Use of L1 in EFL	
Classrooms based on age.....	44
4.2 Students' Perspectives on the Use of L1 in EFL Classrooms.....	45
4.2.1 Students' Attitudes Towards the Use of L1 in EFL	
Classrooms based on Gender.....	48
4.2.2 Students' Attitudes Towards the Use of L1 in EFL	
Classrooms based on Year of study.....	52
4.3 Discussion.....	63
4.4 Conclusion.....	69
CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	70
5.0 Introduction.....	70
5.1 Summary of the Results.....	70
5.2 Recommendations for Practice.....	71
5.3 Suggestions for further research.....	72
5.4 Conclusion.....	73
REFERENCES.....	75
APPENDDICES.....	86

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX A.....	86
TEACHERS' QUESTIONNAIRE.....	86
APPENDIX B.....	89
STUDENTS' QUESTIONNAIRE.....	89
APPENDIX C.....	92
STUDENTS' QUESTIONNAIRE/ KURDISH VERSION.....	92
APPENDIX D.....	94
LSD RESULTS OF STUDENTS' ATTITUDES	
ACCORDING TO THEIR YEAR OF STUDY.....	95
APPENDIX E.....	119
MEAN AND STANDARD DEVIATION ACCORDING TO	
STUDENTS' LEVEL (YEAR).....	120
APPENDIX F	123
APPROVAL LETTER.....	123

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1 Differences between Audio-Lingual Method and Communicative approach.....	16
Table 3.1 Distribution of Teachers based on Gender, Age and Experience.....	28
Table 3.2 Population of Students.....	29
Table 3.3 Demographic Distribution of Students.....	30
Table 4.1 Should L1 (Kurdish) be used in the classroom?.....	39
Table 4.2 Teachers' attitudes towards using L1 in EFL classrooms in Computer Institutes.....	41
Table 4.3 ANOVA Result of Teachers' Attitudes According to Years of Experience (item 25).....	42
Table 4.4 Mean and standard deviation of item 25 according to teachers' experience	42
Table 4.5 Result of independent t-test for differences in using Kurdish in Computer institutes according to teachers' gender (item 8 and 17)....	43
Table 4.6 ANOVA Results of teachers' attitudes according to their age (item 2 and 7).....	44
Table 4.7 LSD Results of teachers' attitudes according to their age	45
Table 4.8 Should L1 (Kurdish) be used in the classroom?.....	45
Table 4.9 Students' attitudes towards using L1 in EFL classrooms in Computer Institutes.....	47
Table 4.10 Results of Independent T-test for Students' Attitudes towards the Use of Kurdish in EFL Classrooms Based on Their Gender.....	50
Table 4.11 ANOVA Results for Students' Attitudes Towards the use of L1 in EFL classrooms based on their Years (Items 1-10).....	60
Table 4.12 ANOVA Results for Students' Attitudes Towards the use of L1 in EFL classrooms based on their Years (Items 11 – 21).....	61
Table 4.13 ANOVA Results for Students' Attitudes Towards the use of L1 in EFL classrooms based on their Years (Items 22 – 27).....	62
Table 5.1 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 1).....	95

Table 5.2 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 2).....	96
Table 5.3 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 3).....	97
Table 5.4 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 5).....	98
Table 5.5 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 6).....	99
Table 5.6 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 7).....	100
Table 5.7 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 8).....	101
Table 5.8 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 9).....	102
Table 5.9 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 10)....	103
Table 5.10 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 11)..	104
Table 5.11 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 12)..	105
Table 5.12 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 13)..	106
Table 5.13 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 15)..	107
Table 5.14 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 16)..	108
Table 5.15 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 17)..	109
Table 5.16 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 18)..	110
Table 5.17 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 19)..	111
Table 5.18 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 20)..	112
Table 5.19 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 21)..	113
Table 5.20 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 22)..	114
Table 5.21 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 23)..	115
Table 5.22 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 24)..	116
Table 5.23 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 25)..	117
Table 5.24 LSD Results of students' attitudes according to their year (item 27)..	118
Table 5.25 Mean and standard deviation scores according to students' year (items 1-11).....	120
Table 5.26 Mean and standard deviation scores according to students' year (items 12-22).....	121
Table 5.27 Mean and standard deviation scores according to students' year (items 23-27).....	122