



## **To See the World in Emails: an Analysis of Effects on Implementing E-pal Writing Project to Learn English Grammar**

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### **Abstract**

Based on the idea of using international communication as a means of language learning, this paper aims to investigate if email correspondence with native English students will improve Taiwanese students' achievement in learning English grammar and their accuracy of use of grammatical tenses. Two classes selected were the first year students of applied foreign language majors enrolled at a five-year college in Taipei, and were taught grammatical tenses by two different instruction methods respectively: Focus on Form Method and Task-based Method. During the process of learning grammatical tenses, students of the class taught through Task-based Method, defined as experimental class, were required to complete writing tasks that involved practices of different grammatical tenses in their emails. In contrast, in the control class the instructor would employ Focus on Form instruction by focusing on explicit explanation followed by more practices such as filling in blanks and writing sentences. A post-test composed of filling in blanks with appropriate tenses and a writing task was conducted to see if any significant difference occurred in the performance of the two classes. The result implied that implementing email writing tasks in the grammar class could improve students' accuracy of use of grammatical tenses.