The Use Of Vocabulary Learning Strategies On Developing EFL Iraqi College Students' Performance In Reading Comprehension

Fatima Raheem Al Mosawi

Atyaf Hasan Ibrahim

Nidhal Mahood

Presented by: Asst.Prof.Dr.Atyaf Hasan Ibrahim

Abstract

1

This research explores how vocabulary learning strategies affect the reading comprehension of EFL Iraqi college students, using questionnaires and interviews for data collection

2

It addresses the challenges faced by Iraqi students due to their limited vocabulary knowledge and assesses the effectiveness of various vocabulary learning strategies.

3

It involves mixed-methods, including quantitative measures of pre- and post-tests and qualitative of the interviews

4

The findings suggest th systematic use of vocabula learning strateg significantly improves E students' readi comprehension and c benefit the language educati globally.
Encoding, word formation a vocabulary notetaking are t most effective learni

Significance of the Study

This research has the potential to significantly enhance the quality of English language education in Iraq. By identifying effective vocabulary learning strategies tailored to the specific needs of EFL students. The research equips educators and institutions with valuable insights to optimize language instructions. This, in turn, can lead to substantial improvements in reading comprehension skills, which are pivotal for academic success among college students

Aims and Research Questions

Aims

1. finding out the effectiveness of vocabulary learning strategies on developing EFL Iraqi college students' performance in reading comprehension.

2. How do sociocultural and educational factors in Iraq influence the effectiveness of vocabulary learning strategies for EFL college students' reading comprehension?

Questions

1. How do particular vocabulary learning strategies improve the reading comprehension of Iraqi college (EFL) students?

2. How do sociocultural and educational factors in Iraq influence the effectiveness of vocabulary learning strategies for EFL college students' reading comprehension?

Vocabulary Learning Strategies

Vocabulary is a fundamental element in language acquisition, and effective vocabulary learning strategies are crucial for language learners.

A robust vocabulary is the key to unlocking language comprehension.

Gu (2020) states that the effectiveness of choosing and using of vocabulary learning strategies depend on the task, the learner, and the learning context.

His view includes the task-dependent strategies of learning from context, dictionary use, vocabulary notetaking, rote rehearsal, encoding, word formation, semantic networks and vocabulary in use.

Methodology

Research Design

This research employs a quantitative research design to investigate the relationship between vocabulary learning strategies and the development of English as a Foreign Language (EFL) Iraqi college students' performance in reading comprehension. A questionnaire serves as the primary data collection tool.

Participants

The sample comprised 60 fourth-year Iraqi students enrolled in English as a foreign language programs at Misan University, encompassing both the Department of Basic Education College and the College of Education during the 2023 academic year. In addition, a total of 15 college teachers specializing in English as a foreign language were part of this research, and the researcher aims to extend the findings to this group as well.

Questionnaire

The questionnaire consists of 15 items, each one addresses the teachers' perceptions of vocabulary learning strategies and other related factors that contribute to the process of learning English. Teachers were given this questionnaire and allotted 5 to 10 minutes for completion to ensure efficiency. The research sampled a total of 20 teachers, each of whom received the questionnaire, with the aim of collecting the most comprehensive and accurate information. Subsequently, the researcher collected the completed questionnaires from the participants to analyze the data and draw meaningful conclusions.
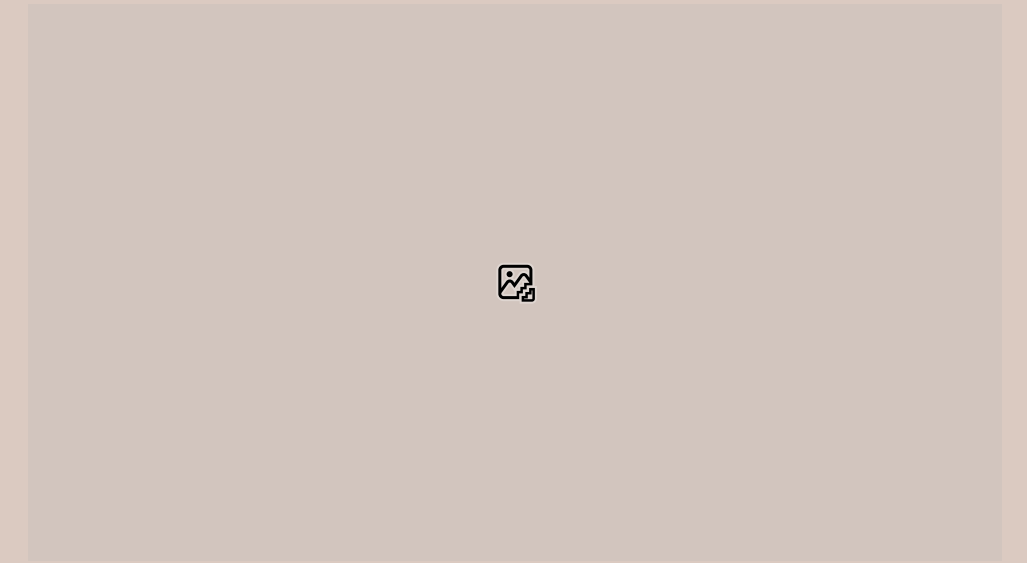
Data Collection Procedure

Data collection procedures

1. Pilot testing for questionnaire clarity and relevance with EFL students, making revisions based on feedback.
2. Obtaining informed consent from participants before distributing the questionnaire.
3. Distributing the questionnaire in person or electronically based on participant preference.
4. Conducting data collection over a defined period, allowing participants sufficient time to respond.
5. Secure and anonymous data management with restricted access for the research team.

Results

The findings reveal that students generally see value in using words in sentences to aid retention and self-quizzing for word verification

Acquiring words from movies and television shows and writing them in their note books is viewed positively but with a wider range of responses, highlighting diversity in vocabulary learning approaches among the students.

Conclusions

1. students actively employ vocabulary learning strategies as an integral part of their language learning journey. These strategies are not just a passive aspect of their learning process but are actively utilized with a degree of efficacy that significantly contributes to their reading comprehension skills.

2. There are specific strategies favored by students, highlighting the diversity and adaptability of these methods within the student community.

3. Encoding, word formation and vocabulary notetaking are the most effective learning strategies employed by the students.

Thanks for Listening