



Foreign Language Leaching: E-learning, Blended with Technology, or Traditional Instruction

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Abstract

Distance learning or e-learning is the product of using computers and the Net for language learning. However, there are still a large number of teachers who advocate the traditional face-to-face instruction emphasizing that the great role of teachers can not be ignored in language instruction. A new line of thought blends traditional teaching with e-learning techniques so that foreign language classes combine the best of in-class and online learning and increase the effectiveness by reducing the teacher's lecturing time and focusing on activities done by the learners. The present study is an attempt to find out comparing e-learning, blended learning, and face-to-face instruction, which one can improve writing skill of Iranian EFL learners better. For this purpose, a number of 120 EFL at Islamic Azad Universities, Abadeh and Shiraz Branch and Zand Institute of Higher Education were selected as the participants. After a pre-test on writing which showed homogeneity of participants, the participants were divided into three groups: one group received the instruction and did the follow-up activities online, another group had traditional instruction, and the third group received in-class instruction but did online activities. After the instruction, a post test of writing was administered. The comparison between the pre and post test of the participants in all three groups revealed that blended instruction can help the EFL learners outperform in their writing skill compared to e-learning and traditional instruction.