EXPERT EFL TEACHERS' SUPPORT FOR CHINESE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS' LEARNING OF WORD MEANINGS THROUGH BLOGS

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Abstract

Xi'an Wuhua High School in China has invested substantially in a program to introduce students to blog-based vocabulary learning and integrate technology into existing curriculum.

Vocabulary learning in Xi'an Wuhua High School includes learning pronunciation, spelling and the meaning and usage of words. The purpose of the present study is to investigate Chinese High School Expert EFL teacher's support. This covers teacher-student interaction and the teacher's direction for the development of student's learning, focusing on word meanings through blogs. There are two research techniques applied in this study.

Teacher-student interaction and teacher's direction; Investigated through the collection and analysis of the content of teacher's blogs.

Teacher support for students learning of word meanings; Investigated through in-depth semi-structured interviews.

The findings of this study are that expert EFL teachers supported students for the development of the student's understanding of the meaning of words through blogs by means of teacher-student interaction:

1) Providing comprehensible questions through blog posts;
2) Giving teacher's feedback through comments in the form of writings and emoticons;
3) Keeping diaries through blog posts and teacher's direction;
4) Providing different tasks;
5) Organizing discussions and presentations.

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