

EFL Learners opinions toward language altering at EFL classrooms.

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Abstract

It's not unusual when bilinguals mix two languages when speaking in different languages. For better understanding of students language altering may be used in the classroom. Despite the importance of the phenomenon, the opinions of students toward teachers language altering have not been investigated in Iran. The main aim of this study was to identify the opinions of students toward teacher's language altering and the advantages and disadvantages of code switching. The participants ($n = 60$) filled an 13 item questionnaire which is adopted from a study entitled the effect of Isizulu/English language altering as a medium of instruction on students performance and opinions toward biology (Coolican, 2004) to measure students opinions towards code switching. The analyzed data showed that it is a good tool for better understanding the subject. They also respected the teacher who code switch in the EFL classroom but some students believed that teaching in English is beneficial to them and speaking farsi is wasting the time.

Key words: Code –switching , bilingual context, classroom discourse, language opinion.

Introduction

Language altering may be used to achieve two things (a) fill a linguistic/ conceptual gap, or (b) for other multiple communicative purposes (Gysel, 1992). While in some places and cases language altering is the exception, in