The Students' Perception of the Effectiveness of Learning Grammar Online

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Abstract - With the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, Sri Lanka's education procedure had to shift from traditional classrooms to online learning. Therefore, this study aims at exploring the students' perception of the effectiveness of learning grammar online. The Certificate in English is a course offered by the Department of English Language Teaching of the Faculty of Management of the Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka in collaboration with the AHEAD Project. This course was offered to first-year undergraduates to improve the language proficiency of the low proficient. Grammar was taught for 40 hours via the ZOOM platform, and learning materials, assignments were made available via Google classroom. A total of forty-four students completed the online survey of the study. Study results showed that 54.5% of the students prefer to learn grammar online. Although they favoured learning grammar online, 65.9% of students believed that learning grammar online was boring. When it comes to online grammar testing, 79.6% of the students prefer online grammar tests to onsite grammar tests. Therefore, the result shows a mixture of perceptions. Even though the students prefer online grammar learning, they find it boring. They also prefer online testing to onsite testing. However, as per study results, it can be concluded that the students' overall evaluation of their experiences of learning grammar online were generally positive as 86.36% of the students have reported so. However, students claimed that they faced problems while learning online, and most of them were related to technical issues.

Keywords: online grammar learning, onsite grammar learning, effectiveness

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