

INNOVATION AND CHANGE IN EDUCATION: THE CASE OF ENGLISH INSTRUCTORS AT A PRIVATE UNIVERSITY IN TURKEY

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this paper is a) to analyze the views of the English language instructors at a private university about the positive and negative effects of innovation and change in education on the learning of the students and b) to discover possible improvements in the design of the language courses of prep-classes. This qualitative study with focus group interview data collection method seeks answers to the problems that instructors face in the classrooms in terms of learning outcomes of the students. In Turkey, most private universities accept students who get lower degrees than the others and one year of English instruction is regarded as unnecessary for the students or they lose their interest in the time of eight months. The problems and suggestive ideas are analyzed in two main categories: a) the learning abilities and the quality of instruction in the lessons and b) the motivation, interest and attitude of the students towards English.

Key Words: Innovation, Change, Instructors, Private University.