

THE INFLUENCE OF COMPUTER ELECTRONIC MAIL (CEM) ON THE
PERFORMANCE AND COMPETENCE OF MIDDLE LEVEL ENGLISH AS A
SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) STUDENTS IN THE STATE OF KUWAIT

by

Bader Nader Ali AL-Khodari

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APPROVED:

Dr. R. Terry Graham, Chairman

Dr. John K. Burton

Dr. Roberta M. Minish

Dr. Muzaffer S. Uysal

Dr. James E. LaPorte

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Dr. R. Terry Graham, Chairman

Department of Teaching and Learning/EDCI

(ABSTRACT)

This research was designed to investigate the utility, relevance, and efficacy levels in the application of Computer Electronic Mail (CEM) as a tool for the teaching and learning of English as a second language (ESL). The participants in the study consisted of 26 students (18 females and 8 males) selected from the population of full time middle-level students of English as a Second Language Kuwaiti Students (ESLKS) in Kuwait University (KU).

The Statistical findings of the study indicate that CEM is a useful and effective tool for the study of English as a second language among ESLKS. Positive significant differences were observed comparing pre-CEM and post-CEM scores in sentence structure, syntax, spelling, vocabulary, and the clarity of writing skills. A second dimension of the study was a survey of the participants' opinions and attitudes about CEM. The opinion survey assessed participants' perceptions of the relevance, usefulness, and effectiveness of CEM as a means of communication and as a tool for the learning of the English language. The study involved a pretest, a seven-week training in the use of CEM to communicate with native American English speakers, and a posttest of

participants' performance in five critical language skills. This portion of the study also indicates the participants' overall satisfaction with CEM as useful tool both for developing English language skills, facilitating learning, building self-confidence in contacting and communicating with other people, stimulating interest in the learning of the English language, and helping in homework assignments. Participants also seem to perceive the relevance of CEM not only in the learning of English as a second language, but also in communication and in transmitting information, generating ideas, striking friendships, solving problems, and increasing work output.

BISM-ILLAH-IR-RAHMAN-IR-RAHEEM

In The Name of Allah, The Compassionate, The ALL-Merciful
Greeting of Allah blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad (Sallahu Alayhi
Waalihhi Wasalam) and upon all the Pure Members of his House

Dedication

This dissertation is dedicated to my great mother for her abiding faith in education and all the sacrifice she made to give me higher education. For her, this dissertation is a dream come true and my way of saying: “Thank you, Mom, your patience, encouragement, support, and prayers for my success in life.”

The dissertation is also dedicated to my beloved wife, Salwa Jawhar, for her love and devotion. She cheers me up when I am down and is always there when I need help. This work is dedicated to her for her exemplary love, patience, support, and continuing prayers.

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