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COOPERATIVE-CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE STUDENTS' COMPREHENSION IN LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

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Abstract

Joyful and cooperative learning atmosphere will truly imboost students' learning. Moreover over past sixty years the language teaching focus shift to students centered learning. Indeed cooperative learning is mostly advocated.

In cooperative learning, students develop their own understanding of teaching materials while at the same time, they also encourage and help their friends in the same groups to comprehend teaching materials and get better understanding. All group members must be active and have responsibility to achieve group's goal. The role of teachers to monitor the group process and result is essential so there will be no dependent member.

Most study showed that cooperative learning is able to encourage students to overcome their difficulties in language learning since peer discussion and peer support help them. Thus, students' comprehension in language learning improves.

Keywords: cooperative learning, students' comprehension

INTRODUCTION

Klimova (2012) describes that over the past 60 years, there is a significant shift of current trends in foreign language teaching (FLT) that the focus on control, shifts to focus on understanding whereas teachers currently should help students understand the purpose of learning and develop their own purpose.

The trend indicates that teachers now should apply students centered learning in their teaching. Teachers' role now is to facilitate the learning activities, encourage students to be more active in the classrooms. Teachers should encourage and support in students' learning by motivating them to create a friendly learning atmosphere for working together in understanding the material taught.

Moreover, Klimova states that collaborative or cooperative learning is being advocated. It is learning methodology that

consists of a range of concepts and techniques for enhancing the value of student-student interaction.

In doing so, the role of teachers in creating classroom activities to set better learning atmosphere is essential as stated by Duderstadt in Jones and Jones (2008) that "It could well be that faculty members of the twenty-first century college or university will find it necessary to set aside their roles as teachers and instead become designers of learning experiences, processes, and environments"

Consequently, the writer is interested in discussing cooperative learning which the writer believes is able to respond to current challenging world and help teachers to utilize the methodology so that students will be well equipped to comprehend the learning materials.