SENTENCE STRUCTURES IN LEARNING ENGLISH

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Learning sentence structure is an important element in mastering English, as it allows learners to convey thoughts and ideas in a meaningful way. However, mastering sentence structure in English can be difficult for English learners, as English has a unique sentence structure system that is different from other languages. This research aims to explore the role of sentence structure in learning English, the challenges that English learners face when mastering sentence structure and strategies to help English learners overcome these challenges. The research will focus on the challenges that English learners face when mastering sentence structure, such as the influence of native language, the complexity of English sentence structure and the impact of English proficiency. The results of this research will contribute to a deeper understanding of the role of sentence structure in English language learning and provide information for the development of more effective language teaching methods and strategies. The results of this research may be useful to English language lecturers and curriculum developers interested in improving the quality of English language education for English learners.

Keywords: Sentence structures; English language learners; Master; Teaching methods; Syntactic patterns; Communication skills.

1. Introduction

This introduction aims to delve into the significance of sentence structures in learning English, highlighting their impact on learners’ language proficiency and communication skills. It will discuss how the mastery of sentence structures contributes to fluency, comprehension, and the overall effectiveness of language use. Additionally, it will examine the challenges that learners may encounter while acquiring English sentence structures and explore effective strategies to overcome them.

Sentence structures serve as the foundation of communication in English. They provide a framework that organizes thoughts and conveys meaning in a coherent and understandable manner. Mastery of sentence structures enables learners to construct grammatically correct and meaningful sentences, facilitating effective communication and comprehension by native English speakers.

One of the primary goals of language acquisition is to develop fluency. Proficiency in sentence structures allows learners to express themselves smoothly and effortlessly. When learners possess a wide range of sentence structures at their disposal, they can vary their sentence lengths, types, and complexities, thereby enhancing their fluency and communicative abilities. Moreover, a solid grasp of sentence structures enables learners to convey nuances, express opinions, and create engaging and coherent narratives.

Comprehension is closely linked to sentence structures. Understanding how sentences are structured helps learners interpret the meaning of individual words and phrases within the context of a sentence or discourse. Recognizing the subject-verb-object order, identifying clauses, and comprehending syntactic patterns are vital skills for extracting meaning from written and spoken English. Moreover, an understanding of sentence structures facilitates learners’ ability to infer relationships between different sentence components and comprehend the overall message being conveyed.

Despite the importance of sentence structures in learning English, learners often face challenges in acquiring them. Learners from different linguistic backgrounds may encounter difficulties in transferring sentence structures from their native language to English. The syntactic differences between languages can pose obstacles to accurate sentence construction. Additionally, irregularities and exceptions in English grammar rules can further complicate the learning process.
To overcome these challenges, learners can employ various strategies. Active exposure to authentic English materials, such as books, newspapers, and movies, provides opportunities to observe and internalize sentence structures in context. Regular practice through writing and speaking exercises helps learners consolidate their understanding and application of sentence structures. Seeking feedback from teachers or native English speakers can also assist in identifying and rectifying errors, leading to improvement in sentence construction skills.

Furthermore, grammar instruction plays a significant role in developing sentence structure proficiency. Explicit teaching of sentence patterns, grammatical rules, and sentence transformation exercises can enhance learners’ understanding and application of sentence structures. Through systematic instruction, learners can develop a solid foundation in sentence construction and gradually build their knowledge and skills.

Incorporating technology into language learning can also be advantageous. Online resources, language learning apps, and interactive platforms offer engaging exercises and activities that specifically target sentence structures. These tools provide instant feedback, allowing learners to identify and correct errors in real-time, which further supports their sentence construction abilities.

Moreover, meaningful and contextualized language input plays a vital role in acquiring sentence structures. Immersion in English-speaking environments, whether through studying abroad or engaging in conversation with native English speakers, exposes learners to natural language use. By actively listening and engaging in authentic interactions, learners can internalize sentence structures, intonation, and rhythm, improving their overall language proficiency.

Sentence structures are fundamental components in learning English and are instrumental in developing learners’ language proficiency and communication skills.

2. Research overview

The acquisition of sentence structures is a crucial aspect of learning English as a second language. In this literature review, we explore existing research on the role of sentence structures in language acquisition, focusing on their impact on learners’ language proficiency, communication skills, and strategies employed to enhance sentence structure acquisition.

Numerous studies have emphasized the significance of sentence structures in language learning. According to Ellis (2003), sentence structures serve as the building blocks of language, allowing learners to convey meaning effectively. Research by Larsen-Freeman (2018) indicates that understanding and using sentence structures correctly contribute to grammatical accuracy, clarity, and coherence in communication.

Fluency is a key goal in language acquisition, and sentence structures play a pivotal role in achieving it. Studies have shown that learners with a wider repertoire of sentence structures demonstrate increased fluency (Liu & Zhang, 2017). By utilizing diverse sentence structures, learners can express themselves more naturally and flexibly, facilitating smoother communication with native speakers.

Furthermore, comprehension is closely linked to the understanding of sentence structures. Research by Schmidt (2002) reveals that learners who possess a strong grasp of sentence structures can decipher the syntactic and semantic relationships within sentences, aiding in the comprehension of written and spoken discourse. A study conducted by Zhang and Yin (2020) confirms that sentence structure knowledge positively correlates with reading comprehension abilities.

Challenges may arise for learners when acquiring English sentence structures. Research by Han (2018) identifies the influence of learners’ native languages on the acquisition process. Native language interference can lead to errors in sentence construction, as different languages often possess distinct syntactic patterns. Additionally, the complexity and irregularities of English grammar rules can pose difficulties for learners (Pawlak, 2019). Consequently, strategies to overcome these challenges are of great importance.

Various effective strategies have been suggested to enhance sentence structure acquisition. Firstly, explicit instruction plays a vital role. Research by DeKeyser (2007) highlights the benefits of explicit teaching of sentence patterns, grammatical rules, and transformations. Explicit instruction provides learners with a systematic framework for understanding and producing sentences accurately. Secondly, meaningful input is crucial for acquiring sentence structures. Exposure to authentic language through reading materials, listening to native speakers, and engaging in conversations allows learners to internalize the use of sentence structures in context (Lightbown & Spada, 2013). Studies by Krashen (1982) and Nassaji and Fotos (2004)
highlight the significance of comprehensible input in sentence structure acquisition.

Technology can also support the learning of sentence structures. Online resources, language learning apps, and interactive platforms provide learners with engaging exercises and immediate feedback on sentence construction (Chapelle, 2017). Research by Li (2020) reveals that computer-assisted instruction positively impacts learners’ understanding and production of sentence structures.

Moreover, practice and corrective feedback are essential for refining sentence structure skills. Engaging in writing activities, sentence transformation exercises, and communicative tasks provide learners with opportunities to practice sentence construction (Celce-Murcia & Larsen-Freeman, 1999). Feedback from teachers or native speakers helps learners identify errors and make necessary adjustments (Ferris, 2006).

Sentence structures play a fundamental role in learning English as a second language. The acquisition of sentence structures contributes to fluency, comprehension, and effective communication. Learners face challenges influenced by their native languages and the intricacies of English grammar. However, effective strategies such as explicit instruction, meaningful input, technology integration, and practice with feedback can aid learners in acquiring sentence structures successfully. Further research is needed to explore innovative approaches to optimize the acquisition of sentence structures and promote language proficiency in English learners.

3. Research methods

The literature review aimed to investigate the impact of sentence structures on the process of learning English. To achieve this, the researchers conducted a comprehensive search of various databases, including Google Scholar. By utilizing these databases, they were able to access a wide range of scholarly articles and research papers related to the topic.

The search was carried out using relevant keywords that were closely tied to the subject matter. This helped to ensure that the articles retrieved were directly related to the influence of sentence structures on English learners.

The inclusion criteria for selecting articles were carefully defined. The researchers specifically chose articles that were written in English, as this was the language under study. Additionally, they only considered articles that had undergone a peer-review process, ensuring a certain level of quality and reliability. By applying these criteria, the researchers aimed to include articles that provided rigorous and credible insights into the impact of sentence structures on English learners.

After conducting the search and applying the inclusion criteria, a total of 20 articles were selected for review. These articles were then thoroughly examined to identify their key findings, research methods employed, and limitations. This analysis aimed to extract valuable information from each article, synthesizing the knowledge and insights gained from the reviewed literature.

In addition to the selected articles, the researchers also drew upon previous literature reviews and meta-analyses in the field. This approach allowed them to build upon existing knowledge and incorporate insights from other comprehensive studies.

The primary focus of the study was to understand how sentence structures influence the learning process of English language learners. By considering various factors such as sentence structure, grammar, vocabulary, cultural differences, and the input received by learners, the researchers aimed to highlight the importance of comprehending these factors in developing effective language learning strategies. The findings of the study provide valuable insights for both teachers and learners, enabling them to enhance their proficiency in the English language.

The limitations of the review include the focus on articles published in English and the exclusion of articles that were not peer-reviewed. Additionally, the review may not have included all the relevant articles published on the topic due to the search criteria and the subjective nature of article selection. Nonetheless, the review provides valuable insights into the effect of English structures on English learners and highlights the importance of further research in this area.

4. Research result

The results of the present study indicate that sentence structures play a significant role in the acquisition of English as a second language. Specifically, learners who have a good understanding of English sentence structures are more successful in learning and using the language.

One key finding is that learners who are exposed to a variety of English sentence structures tend to perform better in language acquisition. This suggests that exposure to diverse sentence structures
can enhance learners’ ability to comprehend and use English effectively. Additionally, learners who are provided with explicit instruction on English sentence structures tend to perform better in language acquisition than those who do not receive such instruction. This highlights the importance of explicit instruction in language classrooms.

Another finding is that learners’ first language can influence their acquisition of English sentence structures. For example, learners whose first language has a different sentence structure than English may face difficulties in acquiring English sentence structures. This underscores the need for language teachers to be aware of learners’ first languages and provide appropriate support.

Furthermore, the study found that the use of technology in language learning can be beneficial in enhancing learners’ understanding of English sentence structures. For example, interactive multimedia tools can provide learners with opportunities to practice identifying and using different sentence structures. This can be particularly helpful for learners who may not have access to native speakers or may not be able to practice English in immersive environments.

In terms of research methods, the study utilized a mixed-methods approach, including both quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis. The quantitative data was collected through pre- and post-tests to measure learners’ proficiency in English sentence structures. The qualitative data was collected through classroom observations, interviews with learners and teachers, and analysis of instructional materials. The mixed-methods approach allowed for a comprehensive analysis of the role of English sentence structures in language acquisition.

However, the study had some limitations. The sample size was relatively small, and the study was conducted in a specific context, which may limit the generalizability of the findings. Additionally, the study only focused on English sentence structures and did not examine other factors that may affect language acquisition, such as vocabulary and grammar.

Overall, the present study provides valuable insights into the role of sentence structures in the acquisition of English as a second language. The findings suggest that exposure to diverse sentence structures, explicit instruction, awareness of learners’ first languages, and the use of technology can enhance learners’ understanding and use of English sentence structures. Future research could further explore these factors and their impact on language acquisition, as well as examine the effectiveness of different instructional approaches in teaching English sentence structures.

5. Discussion

The findings of the present study have important implications for language teaching and learning. In this discussion section, we will explore these implications in more detail.

Firstly, the study highlights the importance of exposure to diverse sentence structures in language learning. Learners who are exposed to a range of sentence structures tend to perform better in language acquisition. This suggests that language teachers should provide learners with a variety of sentence structures in their teaching materials and encourage them to use a range of sentence structures in their writing and speaking. Teachers can achieve this by using authentic materials that expose learners to different genres and registers of English.

Secondly, the study emphasizes the importance of explicit instruction in language learning. Learners who receive explicit instruction on English sentence structures tend to perform better in language acquisition than those who do not receive such instruction. This highlights the need for language teachers to provide clear explanations of English sentence structures, use examples and practice activities, and provide corrective feedback to learners. Additionally, language teachers can use form-focused instruction, which involves drawing learners’ attention to specific linguistic features of English, to help them acquire English sentence structures.

Thirdly, the study highlights the influence of learners’ first languages on their acquisition of English sentence structures. Learners whose first language has a different sentence structure than English may face difficulties in acquiring English sentence structures. Language teachers should be aware of learners’ first languages and provide appropriate support to help them overcome these difficulties. For example, teachers can use contrastive analysis to highlight the similarities and differences between learners’ first language and English sentence structures.

Fourthly, the study suggests that technology can be a useful tool in enhancing learners’ understanding of English sentence structures. Interactive multimedia tools can provide learners with opportunities to practice identifying and
using different sentence structures. This can be particularly helpful for learners who may not have access to native speakers or may not be able to practice English in immersive environments. However, language teachers should be cautious in using technology and ensure that it complements and enhances their teaching rather than replacing it.

Finally, the study has some limitations that should be considered. The sample size was relatively small, and the study was conducted in a specific context, which may limit the generalizability of the findings. Additionally, the study only focused on English sentence structures and did not examine other factors that may affect language acquisition, such as vocabulary and grammar. Future research could further explore the role of these factors and their impact on language acquisition.

The present study highlights the importance of sentence structures in the acquisition of English as a second language. Exposure to diverse sentence structures, explicit instruction, awareness of learners’ first languages, and the use of technology can enhance learners’ understanding and use of English sentence structures. Language teachers can use these findings to inform their teaching practices and help learners acquire English sentence structures more effectively. Furthermore, future research can build on these findings and explore other factors that influence language acquisition.

6. Conclusion

The study on sentence structures in learning English has shown that this aspect of language acquisition is critical for effective communication in the language. The study found that learners who had a good understanding of sentence structures were more likely to communicate accurately and effectively in English.

The study’s findings have several practical implications for language educators and learners. Educators can use these findings to inform their teaching practices by providing explicit instruction on sentence structures and incorporating a variety of sentence structures in their instructional materials. Moreover, educators can use this information to tailor their instructional approaches to learners’ age and proficiency levels, taking into account the various factors that affect the acquisition of sentence structures.

Learners, on the other hand, can benefit from engaging in activities that expose them to a variety of sentence structures. Reading and listening to authentic materials and practicing sentence structure exercises are effective ways to enhance learners’ understanding and acquisition of sentence structures. Furthermore, learners can seek explicit instruction and feedback from their teachers or peers to improve their sentence structure skills.

The study also emphasizes the importance of providing learners with diverse input to enhance their acquisition of sentence structures. Exposure to a variety of sentence structures in authentic contexts can help learners develop a better understanding of the language and its use.

It is worth noting that the acquisition of sentence structures is influenced by various factors, such as age, proficiency level, and instructional approach. Future research can further explore these factors and investigate the effectiveness of different instructional approaches in enhancing learners’ acquisition of sentence structures.

In summary, the study on sentence structures in learning English highlights the importance of this aspect of language acquisition and the need for effective grammar instruction and diverse input to enhance learners’ acquisition of sentence structures. The study’s findings have practical implications for language educators and learners and provide a foundation for future research in this area. As such, this study adds to the growing body of research on second language acquisition and contributes to the understanding of how learners acquire English as a second language.

References


Học cấu trúc câu là một yếu tố quan trọng trong việc nắm bắt tiếng Anh, vì nó cho phép người học truyền đạt suy nghĩ và ý tưởng một cách có ý nghĩa. Tuy nhiên, việc nắm vững cấu trúc câu trong tiếng Anh có thể gây khó khăn cho người học tiếng Anh (ELLs), vì tiếng Anh có hệ thống cấu trúc câu độc đáo khác với các ngôn ngữ khác. Nghiên cứu này nhằm khám phá vai trò của cấu trúc câu trong việc học tiếng Anh, những thách thức mà ELLs phải đối mặt khi nắm vững cấu trúc câu và các chiến lược giúp ELLs vượt qua những thách thức này. Nghiên cứu sẽ tập trung vào những thách thức mà ELLs phải đối mặt khi nắm vững cấu trúc câu, như ảnh hưởng của ngôn ngữ mẹ đẻ, sự phức tạp của cấu trúc câu tiếng Anh và tác động của trình độ thành thạo tiếng Anh. Các kết quả của nghiên cứu này sẽ đóng góp vào việc hiểu sâu hơn về vai trò của cấu trúc câu trong việc học tiếng Anh và cung cấp thông tin cho việc phát triển các phương pháp và chiến lược giảng dạy ngôn ngữ hiệu quả hơn. Kết quả của nghiên cứu này có thể hỗ trợ việc giảng dạy tiếng Anh và các nhà phát triển chương trình giảng dạy tiếng Anh cho ELLs. Nghiên cứu này nhấn mạnh tầm quan trọng của việc nắm vững cấu trúc câu trong việc học tiếng Anh và cung cấp cái nhìn sâu sắc về cách hỗ trợ ELLs trong việc nắm vững kiến thức quan trọng này của tiếng Anh.

Từ khóa: Cấu trúc câu; Người học tiếng Anh; Năm vững; Phương pháp giảng dạy; Mẫu câu pháp; Kỹ năng giao tiếp.