

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORM

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Abstract Title	Finding Means of Improving Interactive Learning in English Language Skills Course (Learning Styles and Strategies)
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Abstract

(approx 250 words)

This paper looks at improving interactive teaching and learning in English Language Skills (ELS) class at the University of the South Pacific (USP). ELS courses are designed to improve the academic performance of students at tertiary level. Since EL001 is a skill based course at USP, it requires students to be involved in active learning and practice. This is the dominant teaching method, and students are required to undergo a number of assessments such as tests, assignments, discussion, and participation. The completed tasks of students are also assessed in this course. To find out ways to improve interaction in the ELS class, this research focuses on the students' behavior in pair discussion and their responses to questions asked by the instructors during discussions. Three specific methods, '*One Book Referral Strategy*', '*Teacher Monitor Strategy*' and '*Own Book Strategy*', are implemented and tested to find out the improved outcome. The research subjects are 33 existing students from Arts and Science Faculties at USP who are taking the English Language Skills (EL001) course. From the three strategies implemented and tested in this research, studying students' responses and performance, it has been confirmed that '*One Book Referral Strategy*' and '*Teacher Monitor Strategy*' showed to be most effective , Detailed results and issues arising from this research are discussed in this paper.

Presenter Biography
(approx 100 words)

The presenter has taught English as a subject in various Secondary Schools in Fiji, before joining Teacher Training Institution as a lecturer in English and Education. Currently, she is teaching English Language Skills Course (EL001) at the University of the South Pacific, Suva. The presenter had also been a certified IELTS examiner for some time. Her first degree is a Bachelor of Education (English Language and Literature) and has a Master of Education (TESOL) - University of Southern Queensland. The presenter has a side interest is community service for which she has done Certificate in Guidance and Counseling.