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Ain Shams University
Faculty of Education
Department of Curriculum and Instruction



Current Issues and Future Challenges ESP teachers encounter in the Technical Secondary Schools in Egypt (A Survey Study)

A Thesis Submitted for the M.A. Degree in Education (Curriculum and Instruction)

by

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Abstract

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Research Title: Current Issues and Future Challenges ESP

teachers encounter in the Technical Secondary Schools in Egypt

(A Survey Study)

Source: Ain Shams University, Faculty of Education,

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Abstract:

The current study seeks to shed light on the main issues and difficulties English teachers encounter in ESP teaching at technical secondary schools in Egypt. To accomplish this purpose the researcher has done a survey study using three different instruments: a classroom observation sheet, a questionnaire for English teachers at technical schools; in addition to an interview with English teachers and inspectors. Participants of the study were 146 teachers and inspectors. The findings of the study indicated that there are many common issues and future challenges ESP teachers encounter in teaching English in these schools. Participants also shared their views to find solutions for issues and challenges they encountered. It was recommended that administration, course designers, teachers and students should adopt some solutions to overcome these issues.

Key words: ESP teachers, issues and challenges, technical schools

i

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Abstract	i
Acknowledgement	ii
Table of Contents List of Tables List of Diagrams	iv
	xiv
	XV
List of Bar-Graphs	xvi
List of Abbreviations	X
CHAPTERONE: Background and Problem	
1.1. Introduction	01
1.2. Background of the study	04
1.3 Context of the study	05
1.4. pilot study	07
1.5. The study Problem	08
1.6. Statement of the Problem	10
1.7. Research Questions	12
1.8. Significance of the study	13
1.9. Definitions of key terms	15
1.10. Delimitation of the study	16
1.11. Organization of the remainder of the study	17
CHAPTER TWO: A Review of Literature and Re	lated Studies
2.1. ESP background	21
2.2. ESP VS GENERAL ENGLISH	21
2.3. Types of ESP	24
2.4.ESP context nationally and internationally	26
2.5. ESP in the Arab world and Egypt	27
2.6. ESP in Egypt	28

2.7. Technical education in Egypt	28
2.8. Industrial schools in Egypt	29
2.9. issues in ESP	30
2.10. Commentary	
CHAPTER THREE: Method	
3.1. The Method	38
3.2. The design of the Study	40
3.3. Population and Sampling	41
3.4. Instruments	42
3.4.1. Classroom Observation	43
3.4.2. Questionnaire	45
3.4.3. Interview	46
3.5. Data Collection	46
3.6. Data analysis methods	47
CHAPTER FOUR: Results, Discussion and Interpretation Of	Findings
4.1. Discussion of results	54
4.2. Interpretation of the findings	54
4.2.1. Classroom Observation	54
4.2. 2. The questionnaire for teachers	58
4.2.3. Interview Questions Analysis	83
4.3. discussion of results	93
CHAPTER FIVE: Summary, Conclusion and Recommenda	
5.1. summary	104
5.2. questions and procedures of the study	105
5.3. findings of the study	106
5.4. Conclusion	107

5.5. Recommendations	108
5.6. Limitations of the study	109
5.7.suggestions for further research	111
5.8. CONCLUSION	112
References	113
APPENDICES	118
Appendix 'A': Classroom Observation Sheet	118
Appendix 'B': The Teachers' Questionnaire	123
Appendix 'C': The Teachers' Interview Guide	125

LIST OF TABLES

Table 3.1: ESP Teachers at the Three Governorates	54
Table 3.2: Questionnaire Structure	67
Table 3.3: Teachers' Rate Participation	69
Table 4.1: Preliminary Data Derived from Classroom	
Observation	77
Table 4.2: Teachers' ESP Experience	86
Table 4.3: Expertise Status of Respondents	88
Table 4.4 : Teachers Undertaking Specialized Training	90
Table 4.5: Learners' Level of Language Proficiency	92
Table 4.6: Languages Used in the Classroom	94

List of Abbreviations

EFL: English as a Foreign Language

ESP: English for Specific Purposes.

EGP: English for General Purposes

ELT: English Language Teaching

EOP: English for Occupational Purposes

EAP: English for Academic Purposes

VET: Vocational English Teaching

TE: Technical Education

Chapter One Background and Problem

English language is a necessary requirement for both development and international communication in all countries, learning it is a vital tool among ordinary people, scientists, institutions and governments. While searching for the reasons behind such growth of interests towards learning English, one may find different answers, as well as different motives.

Thus, nowadays most scientific publications, business knowledge and exchange of ideas, in economy, work places and technical terminology are in English. Being aware of the fact that English has become the dominant language on globe, the Egyptian government had decided years ago, like many other countries, to adopt English mainly at all stages of learning.

Accordingly, studying English is not only restricted to human sciences, however it is now taught in business/economics and sciences and engineering as well. Language courses provided at these departments will be of precise nature that is supposed to fulfill specific learners' needs, i.e., ESP courses. ESP is defined by Hutchinson et al (2003:21) as: "...an approach to language teaching which aims to meet the needs of particular learners."