

Effective Strategies for improving Vocabulary Proficiency among Upper Secondary Level Students

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: The purpose of the study is to enhance upper secondary students' vocabulary proficiency through the use of literature in English language teaching, highlighting its role in improving language skills and knowledge.

Design/methodology/approach: The study used a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative analysis from tests and qualitative insights from questionnaires and observations. Initially involving 35 GCE (O/L) students, 20 were selected for the final sample. Data analysis was conducted using MS Excel.

Findings: The research found significant improvement in students' vocabulary skills through strategies like song-based learning, vocabulary games, and language boards in English literature. Pre- and post-test comparisons confirmed the effectiveness, while questionnaires and observations revealed positive student feedback and valuable qualitative insights.

Practical implications: The researcher recommends incorporating literature-based instruction, interactive activities, and selected literary works into the curriculum to enhance students' vocabulary proficiency.

Originality value: Educators should consider instructional strategies to individual needs and include interactive, engaging elements to support language development.

Keywords: *Vocabulary Proficiency, English Literature, Effective Strategies, Song Based Learning, Language Board, Vocabulary Development Games*