

ABSTRACT

THE EFFECTS OF DIALOGUE JOURNALS ON ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS' SYNTAX, SPELLING, AND LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

The purpose of this study was to determine the effects that dialogue journals have on English language learners' writing skills and language proficiency. Specifically, this study focused on English language learners' spelling and grammatical skills as well as their language proficiency levels. Dialogue journals are a form of written communication between two people, in this case, the researcher and the student. Ten English language learners participated in the study, which occurred over a four-week period. Pre and post surveys and pre and post writing samples were collected in addition to the dialogue journals. All three instruments were all analyzed using a cross-comparison analysis to determine if the students made less spelling and grammatical errors over the course of the study and to measure their language proficiency. Dialogue journals were found to improve the students' spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation. However, only one student increased her language proficiency.

Katherine Lenore Koch
May 2005