Table of Contents

I. Introduction
A. The Statement of the Problem 1
B. Purpose of the Study 3
C. Definition of Important Terms 7
D. List of Abbreviations 9
E. Key to Phonetic Symbols 10

II. Educational System and EFL in Iran
A. Educational System in Iran 11
B. Foreign Language Teaching in Iran: Background 13
C. The Goals of Teaching English in Iran 15
D. ELT Status in Today's Iran 18

III. Review of Contrastive and Error Analysis Theories
A. Contrastive Analysis (CA) Development: History 20
B. Theoretical Assumptions 25
C. Trends and Approaches in CA 28
  1. CA and Structuralism 29
  2. Different Versions of CA 31
  3. Approximative System 34
  4. CA and Interlanguage 35
     a. Interlanguage and Fossilization 35
     b. Systematicity in Interlanguage 36
     c. Variability in Interlanguage 37
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>d. Interlanguage and Pedagogical Implications</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. The Transfer Effect of CAH</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. CA and Pedagogical Application</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Markedness Differential Hypothesis (MDH)</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Appraisal of CAH</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. The Theoretical Problems</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. CA and Universal Grammar</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Priority of Errors</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Different Versions of CAH</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. The Question of Difficulty in CAH</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. The Pitfalls of CA and Pedagogy</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. The Predictive Power of CA</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Simplification Hypothesis</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Ignorance Hypothesis</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Error Analysis Hypothesis</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Theoretical Assumptions</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Significance of Error Analysis</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. The Notion of an Error : Error or Mistake</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Sources of Errors</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Interlanguage Errors</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Diversity of Inter-Intra Classification</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Criticism of EA</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Priority of Errors in EA</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. The Problem of Classification</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Cross Sectional or Longitudinal</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. The Avoidance Hypothesis</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
i) Sources of Avoidance

IV. Design of the Study
A. Sources of Data
   1. Subjects
   2. Placement test
B. Methods of Data Gathering
   1. Grammaticality Judgment Test
   2. Error Analysis Processes
      a. Identification and Labeling of Errors
      b. Classification of data into Error Types
         i) Mono-source Errors
         ii) Bi-source Errors
C. Preparing the Frequencies
D. Identification of Areas and Sources of Difficulty

V. Presentation and Analysis of Data
A. The Results of Grammaticality Judgment Test
B. The Results of Error Analysis Processes
   1. Errors in the Use of Nouns
      a. Mispluralization
      b. Nouns as Adjectives
      c. Missingularization
      d. Misusing a Noun as a Verb
   2. Errors of Preposition
      a. Deletion
      b. Insertion
      c. ‘For’ as Infinitive
3. Errors of Article
   a. Deletion
      i) From Immediate Situation
      ii) Cataphoric Reference
      iii) Sporadic Reference
      iv) Logical Use of ‘the’
   b. Insertion
4. Errors of Concord
   a. Subject-verb Agreement
      i) Deleting third person singular -s
      ii) Determiner-head Noun Agreement
5. Errors of Adjective Clauses
   a. Resumption
      i) Relative Pronoun in Subject Position
      ii) Relative Pronoun in Object Position
      iii) Relative Pronoun as Object to Preposition
6. Errors of Adjectives
   a. Adjective as Adverb
7. Errors of Adverb Clauses
   a. Adverb Clauses for Infinitive
8. Errors of Word Order
9. Errors of Noun Clauses
10. Errors of Copula
    a. Deletion
VI. Principal Findings and Conclusions

A. Findings of GJT
1. Misusing Adjective for Adverb 183
2. Article Misuse 184
3. Preposition Misuse 188
4. Errors of Concord 190
5. Count and Non-count Noun Recognition 193

B. Findings of Error Analysis Process 197
1. Difficulty and Difference 198
2. Rule Inconsistency, Simplification, and Errors 200
3. The Effects of Avoidance 201
   a. Avoidance and Relative Clauses 205
4. Limitations of the Study 207
5. Recommendations for Further Study 209

VII. Appendices

Appendix one : References 211
Appendix two: Composition Samples 223
Appendix three: Collection of Errors 230
Appendix four: Grammaticality Judgment Test Sample 294
Appendix five: Oxford Placement Test 296