ABSTRACT

English language teaching is very important because of the global status of English. English language teaching is a process that requires great efforts on the part of all the participants. Classroom interaction, activities, textbooks are the most important elements of teaching process for the aims and objectives of a course. In view of the importance of English as a foreign language in Iraq, the researcher has examined the existing textbooks and system of teaching English in order to point out the shortcomings which have been hindering the Iraqi students from mastering the English language.

The problem can be solved by using new textbooks. The teachers of English should also be equipped with an up-to-date knowledge of English Language Teaching (ELT).

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objective of this study is to help Iraqi students in English Language learning. Other objectives are:

1. To conduct a critical analysis of textbooks and existing system of teaching of English in Iraq.

2. To analyze classroom interaction and activities.
3. To analyze national examinations

**DESIGN AND PROCEDURE**

One hundred representative fifth grade students and twenty teachers of Iraq were selected, using stratified samples and random selection. Four schools in Mosul city were selected as being representative of the socioeconomic structure of the country as a whole, and then equal number of boys and girls were selected.

The main data collection instrument was the questionnaire. The student’s questionnaire was arranged on multi-option questions pattern and open-ended questions. The teachers’ questionnaire consisted of: one close-ended question, two open-ended, the rest multiple-choice questions. The responses were obtained from both male and female teachers. The aim of this questionnaire was to collect information about classroom interaction, textbooks and teachers’ attitude towards ELT in Iraq.

**PLAN OF STUDY**

The present thesis is divided into five chapters: Chapter I is about education in Iraq.

Chapter II analyses the syllabus and English language textbooks in Iraq.

Chapter III deals with the analysis of the questionnaire: students’ questionnaire and teachers’ questionnaire. Chapter IV describes
classroom interaction and exercise activities for practice. Chapter V is about the conclusion, remedies and some recommendations.

**ANALYSIS OF THE DATA**

Chapter III of this study provides information on data collection procedures and data analysis. Data collection instrument was the questionnaire. The researcher secured questionnaires from 100 students and 20 teachers. Some questions of the questionnaire investigate the level of the four language skills in classroom. Others find out the preferred classroom activities and about the NECI course. Some questions deal with classroom interaction elements.

**RANGE OF THE STUDY**

1. The study and questionnaire concerned the students of class XI of both scientific and literary groups from preparatory schools of boys and girls.
2. Analysis of (textbook VII) for 5th secondary grade at the state schools, and textbook VIII for 6th secondary grade.
3. Students at secondary level from Mosul city schools, Iraq.

**CONCLUSION OF THE STUDY**

The researcher concludes his study with the observation that students prefer to have an active role in the classroom such as taking part in
activities and they like to work in pairs and groups in order to interact closely with one another. The researcher also concludes that the students are weak in productive (Speaking and writing skills) Most of them want textbook for more activities.

There is a further need for study and probing the interaction of classroom and factors with the intended change.

**REMEDIES**

We need to engage with contrastive studies and error analysis. The new textbooks need to be based on these studies of the foreign language and the teacher of English should focus on motivating the students and encouraging them to gather information, and to learn other skills. Teachers should have sufficient knowledge of various methods and ways of articulating. They should adapt their methods according the age, sex and attainment level of students. A planned programme of evaluation is essential for the measurement of the results of teaching. The Iraqi system of examination, especially public ministerial examination needs reform. Students must be tested through oral examinations. Teachers must be provided with audio-visual aids for teaching proper pronunciation.

Planning is important for preparing a relevant curriculum. It should be planned according to what students need to learn.
Some Recommendations are made for improving the learning and teaching of English as a foreign language in Iraq, as for example,  

1. Changing the Textbooks  
2. Training of teachers  
3. Increasing the students’ exposure to English.