M.A. THESIS IN LINGUISTICS

PROBLEMS FACED BY VOCATIONAL EDUCATION STUDENTS LEARNING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

(A LINGUISTIC STUDY ON TRADE COURSE STUDENTS IN THE TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF WARIYAPOLA)

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ABSTRACT

This is an exploratory study that scopes at the problems faced by vocational education students learning English as a second language in technical colleges. The target group of the study is 22 students of two trade courses, welding and electrical trade, in the technical college of Wariyapola. Initially the problems faced by the students who are learning English as a second language were assessed by the answers to the questionnaire provided to the students. In the questionnaire, the factors which effect on second language acquisition are assessed, namely, Motivation of the learner, Intelligence of the learner, Quality of teaching, Teaching materials, The learner's intention to be successful. These problems are discussed and analyzed at the third chapter, data analysis. Secondly, as a remedial measure to the writing problems which were identified at the initial test that was conducted at the beginning of the course, a module which consists of simple English words, word formation, numbers, simple expressions and simple essays that describe people and places, were given to the students and at the chapter three, the marks students collected at the initial test and post-test which was held after launching the module are assessed.