

Developing Students' Speaking Skill through Short Stories

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Abstract

This research tries to highlight the effects of the use of English short stories as an authentic material for developing speaking skill, based on the rationale that short stories can provide students with motivation necessary in speaking as well as in reading. The research intends to provide some practical use of short stories to create lively and communicative lessons with the occasional provision of forms and functions. It aims to integrate communicative speaking activities with four short stories selected from second year English specialization text book of the Yangon University of Distance Education. Exercises and activities are devised according to the Communicative Language Teaching and Task-based Approach. The research was carried out at a private class with twelve learners who had sat for the first year English specialization study. Drawing upon the findings and results of the students' performance, the study showed that short stories help to improve students' spoken fluency and the cultivation of interest in literature.

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