

Critical Comparison of Two Teaching Methods: The Grammar Translation Method and the Communicative Teaching Method

Authors : Aicha Zohbie

Abstract : The purpose of this paper is to critically compare two teaching methods: the communicative method and the grammar-translation method. The paper presents the importance of language awareness as an approach to teaching and learning language and some challenges that language teachers face. In addition, the paper strives to determine whether the adoption of communicative teaching methods or the grammar teaching method would be more effective to teach a language. A variety of features are considered for comparing the two methods: the purpose of each method, techniques used, teachers' and students' roles, the use of L1, the skills that are emphasized, the correction of students' errors, and the students' assessments. Finally, the paper includes suggestions and recommendations for implementing an approach that best meets the students' needs in a classroom.

Keywords : language teaching methods, language awareness, communicative method grammar translation method, advantages and disadvantages

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