

Iranian Students' and Teachers' Perceptions of Effective Foreign Language Teaching

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Abstract : Students and teachers have different perceptions of effectiveness of instruction. Comparing students' and teachers' beliefs and finding the mismatches between them can increase L2 students' satisfaction. Few studies have taken into account the beliefs of both students and teachers on different aspects of pedagogy and the effect of learners' level of education and contexts on effective foreign language teacher practices. Therefore, the present study was conducted to compare students' and teachers' perceptions on effective foreign language teaching. A sample of 303 learners and 54 instructors from different private language institutes and universities participated in the study. A questionnaire was developed to elicit participants' beliefs on effective foreign language teaching and learning. The analysis of the results revealed that: a) there is significant difference between the students' beliefs about effective teacher practices and teachers' belief, b) Class level influences students' perception of effective foreign language teacher, d) There is a significant difference of opinion between those learners who study foreign languages at university and those who study foreign language in private institutes with respect to effective teacher practices. The present paper concludes that finding the gap between students' and teachers' beliefs would help both of the groups to enhance their learning and teaching.

Keywords : effective teacher, effective teaching, students' beliefs, teachers' beliefs

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