

A PROPOSED MODEL ON DEVELOPING STUDENTS' ACADEMIC WRITING BASED ON CRITICAL THINKING

Dalal Abdulla Alqiawi
Faculty of Education
University of Jeddah
Saudi Arabia

ABSTRACT_ The acquisition of the four language skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing in English is a priority for students' success at universities. Writing, in particular, represents one of the hardest skills to learn for students. However, most of the departments at universities insist that students should be skillful enough to write their essays, papers, and reports in English.

The present study aims at facilitating and developing university students' writing skills by proposing a model that adopts critical thinking strategies in developing students' academic writing skills. The model is divided into three parts that correspond to the main characteristics of an academic paper. It covers the external framework of the academic paper, the analytic and persuasion throughout the paper, and final draft self-assessment of the written essay. The method used in the present study is a review of literature concerning academic writing, critical thinking and persuasion, and the use of models in improving students' learning. In order to account of the validity of the model, the researcher sought the opinions of university staff members and their responses added weight to the model validity in training students to write academic papers.

KEY WORDS_ Critical thinking Skills, Academic writing, Persuasive writing, Critical writing