

The present study examined the effectiveness of current English language teaching practices at the Higher Secondary level. The basic proposition of the study was that the current teaching practices at the intermediate level are ineffective and are in the need of improvement and reconsideration. The researcher conducted this evaluation through descriptive research methods and used questionnaires for students and teachers, and classroom observation sheet to collect data. The cohort of the study comprised 400 students and 100 teachers. Classroom observations of 29 English language teachers' teaching practices at the institutes in the capital territory of Islamabad were conducted. The collected data were analyzed through Chi-square goodness of fit test, z-tests for proportions, and chi-square test of association using SPSS, Excel, and MSTAT software.

The research instruments addressed the correspondence between the objectives and teaching practices, motivational aspects of the teaching practices, teachers' ability to present the material, teachers and students' awareness of the objectives, teachers' evaluation practices of students, and teachers' reflection on their own teaching practices. This study also examined the association between gender and the current teaching practices at the intermediate level.

It was found that the current teaching practices do not adequately align with the course objectives, but that they are motivating to some extent. Teachers are generally skillful at presenting the material but they do not tell students the objectives which results in the students remaining unaware of the objectives of the course. Furthermore, the findings with regard to teacher's assessment of the students are significantly unfavourable. Also they do not reflect significantly on their own teaching practices. No significant differences between male and female teachers' teaching practices are found.

Based on the findings, recommendations have been made with hope for improvement in ELT practices and further areas for research have been suggested.