Moodle-based Preparation for English Meitsav: Learning Effectiveness, and Motivation

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Abstract:

The rationale of standardized tests is to enact the curriculum and improve learners' as well as teachers' performance. However, there is the backwash effect! In an era of high-stakes and high-stress testing, classroom instruction may give way to inappropriate teaching and teachers may start teaching to the test. Moodle quiz module can be adapted so that learners can autonomously 'learn to the test' anytime, anywhere; Moodle quiz module can be adapted to 'teach to the test' allowing language teachers to enact the curriculum and teach the often neglected domains of the language - written & oral proficiency, thinking skills, literature & culture. Moodle is an e-learning software platform that can potentially be integrated in delivering any subject matter. Although Moodle has been integrated in language acquisition courses in colleges and universities, it is not a panacea for language learning in schools. This experimental proposed research aims to customize this Learning Management System (Moodle quiz module as the intervention program) to cater to the needs of Israeli elementary and junior high school English teachers who prepare for English standardized Meitsav tests. About 50 English teachers from the Arab sector will experience Moodle quiz module to prepare their pupils for English standardized Meitsav tests. Moodle quiz module learning effectiveness as well as teachers' and learners' motivation and perceptions of Moodle quiz module will form the dependent variables. Both qualitative and quantitative measures will be implemented.

Key Words (Subject Terms): Online Learning, Learning Management System, Virtual Learning Environment. Israeli-Arab English Teachers, English Meitsav, Moodle quiz module.