AN ANALYSIS OF DISCOURSE MARKERS IN ACADEMIC REPORT WRITING: PEDAGOGICAL IMPLICATIONS

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ABSTRACT

Writing seems to be the most complex of the four basic languages skills. It is a process that requires both the knowledge of Morphology and syntax because letters have to be appropriately put to form words and words to form phrases and sentences. There are different types of writing that are done to achieve different purposes. Academic writing is one of the writing skills that students are to acquire before completing their programme of studies in higher institutions of learning. Being a professional and critical writing, it is intended for professionals, experts and informed audience on the field. Academic writing deals with investigated facts rather than fiction or prose. Learners in higher institutions need the skills because it is mandatory for them to submit research projects to their departments as partial fulfillments for the award of certificates or degrees in their programme of studies. However, sometimes what the students submit does not communicate well or depict their professionalism. One of the problems they face is appropriate use of discourse markers to enhance coherence among text elements. This study analyzed the use of discourse markers to enhance effective academic writing such as Laboratory Reports, Field Trip, Students Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) or final year project Reports. Different views of scholars were examined and discussed. The study re-emphasizes the need for teaching and appropriate utilization of discourse markers to enhance effective academic report writing.

Keywords: Discourse, discourse analysis, discourse markers, academic report Writing.