The Effects of Applying Linguistic Principles and Teaching Techniques in Teaching English at Secondary School in Thailand

Wannakarn Likitrattanaporn

Abstract—The ultimate purpose of this investigation was to determine the teachers’ opinions as well as students’ opinions towards the Adapted English Lessons. The subjects of the study were 5 Thai teachers, who teach English, and 85 Grade 10 mixed-ability students at Triamudom Suksa Pattanakarn Ratchada School, Bangkok, Thailand. The research instruments included questionnaires and the informal interview. The data from the research instruments was collected and analyzed concerning linguistic principles of minimal pair and articulatory phonetics as well as teaching techniques of mimicry-memorization; vocabulary substitution drills, language pattern drills, reading comprehension exercise, practicing listening, speaking and writing skill and communicative activities; informal talk and free writing. The data was statistically compiled according to an arithmetic percentage. The results showed that the teachers and students have very highly positive opinions towards adapting linguistic principles for teaching and learning phonological accuracy. Teaching techniques provided in the Adapted English Lessons can be used efficiently in the classroom. The teachers and students have positive opinions towards them too.

Keywords—Applying linguistic principles and teaching techniques, teachers’ and students’ opinions, teaching English, the Adapted English Lessons.

I. INTRODUCTION

FROM the researcher’s earlier investigation about the problems in teaching English at Thai Secondary Schools, some teachers mentioned that their students have difficulties with English segmental phonemes and supra-segmental phonemes. Students cannot pronounce English phonemes such as /v//θ/ /ð//z//ʃ//r/ correctly. They have a problem with initial phonemes. Students cannot pronounce English phonemes such with English segmental phonemes and supra-segmental some teachers mentioned that their students have difficulties in teaching English for communication. Their English communication ability is not high. To solve these problems, the Adapted English Lessons 1-3 were constructed. The theme of the lessons is based on language function of asking for and giving directions. Linguistic principles are applied for teaching consonant sounds and final cluster sounds. VDOs from YouTube are suggested to provide an opportunity for students to listen to sounds from native speakers of English. Furthermore, a variety of teaching techniques are used for the purpose of teaching language accuracy and fluency.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Linguistic Principles for Teaching English Phonological Accuracy

1) Minimal Pair

The main reason why minimal pair has been used in teaching pronunciation is that it can discriminate 2 phonemes. [1] This principle is used in the Adapted English Lessons for teaching a phoneme /θ/ which does not occur in the Thai consonant sound system, most of Thai students cannot distinguish when they pronounce tree and three. Then the words mat and math are used. The students were asked to pronounce these 2 final sounds repeatedly until they were aware of how /-t/ is different from /-θ/, as well as being able to pronounce these 2 phonemes correctly.

2) Articulatory Phonetics

Articulatory phonetics can assist students on how to pronounce consonant phonemes through 3 main principles; places of articulation, manners of articulation and voicing. [2] Besides practicing the final sound /θ/, the students have to practice the final cluster sounds of /-θt/-/θt/ as they are in the high frequency words used for asking for and giving directions, such as left, east, west etc. To describe the characteristic of these phonemes, articulatory phonetics is used. For instance, teachers can describe or demonstrate using tip of the tongue and alveolar for pronouncing /θ/ or place a tongue between upper lip and lower lip for pronouncing /-θ/. This linguistic principle is used for teaching the cluster sounds as well.

B. Combination of Language Accuracy and Language Fluency

Thai students spend 12 years studying English in primary and high school, however, their English proficiency is low.
Thai teachers who teach English always complain that their students are quite poor in linguistic and communicative competency. To solve the problem, several principles from methods of language teaching are taken into account. Exercises or activities that can activate the students to achieve language accuracy prior to using it for communication will be designed in the Adapted English Lessons.

Practicing English pronunciation and practicing language accuracy repeatedly are from Audiolingual Method. [3]

Comprehension checking exercises after reading passage is from Noam Chomsky who believes that human beings learn language through thinking and understanding mentioned as Cognitive Learning Theory.[4]

Using language function as well as communicative activities is from Communicative Language Teaching Approach. Reference [5] mentions that Wilkins in 1976 considered about within a social context, language users need to perform certain functions.

III. METHODOLOGY

Since the samples of the study and the research instruments are already stated. Then details on the Adapted Lessons, Questionnaires and Procedures of the study are described.

A. The Adapted English Lessons

The Adapted English Lessons consist of three lessons. Details of each lesson are as follows:

Lesson one concentrates on pronunciation. Minimal pair of /-t/ and /-θ/, cluster sounds of /-ft/, /-st/, primary stress on the syllable in front of –ment and –tion are taught and practiced. This lesson also focuses on practicing a dialogue of asking for and giving directions through the teaching techniques of mimicry-memorization.

Lesson two focuses on listening and speaking. The students are asked to listen to a conversation from CD. After that they fill in the blanks to make a short conversation. Then they work in pairs and make three conversations with his/her friend by using the words provided. Finally, each pair chooses one conversation to draw a simple map showing the directions of the place.

Lesson three emphasizes on pronunciation of /-t/, /-d/, /-id/ with past tense verbs that end with -ed. This lesson also focuses on checking reading comprehension. At the end of the lesson the students write a short essay about 8-10 sentences describing the directions from school to their house, and they draw a simple map for their essay.

B. Questionnaires Asking Teachers’ and Students’ Opinions towards the Adapted English Lessons

There are 2 questionnaires. One questionnaire is designed for the teachers and the other is for the students. They are constructed with items measured on a five point rating scale plus open-ended questions seeking descriptive data. The five point rating scales are Strongly agree, Agree, Moderate, Disagree and Strongly disagree.

C. Procedures of the Study

1. The research instruments were written and piloted with 1 English teacher.
2. The research instruments were improved according to the teacher’s comments and suggestions concerning the format, concepts and wording.
3. Before experimenting 5 teachers discussed with the researcher on the purposes of the lesson, how to teach and checking the answer keys.
4. The Adapted English Lessons were experimented. It took 100 minutes to finish teaching each lesson.
5. The samples of the study were asked to complete the questionnaires.
6. Data from the questionnaires was analyzed.

IV. RESULTS OF THE STUDY

A. Teachers’ Bio-data

Three female and two male teachers participated in this study. They are in the age range of 27-30. They finished their bachelor’s degree majoring in English or teaching English. One of them is studying in master’s degree program majoring in teaching English whereas the other three are studying in master’s degree program majoring in educational linguistics.

B. Quantitative Data from Rating Scale Questions

TABLE I

| TEACHERS’ OPINIONS TOWARDS LINGUISTIC PRINCIPLES FOR TEACHING PHONOLOGICAL ACCURACY |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Strongly agree  | Agree           |                 |
| 1. Minimal pair of ma and math can help students to pronounce final sounds [-t], [-θ]. | 80% 20% |
| 2. Practicing how to pronounce cluster sounds [-ft], [-st] is useful for students. | 80% 20% |
| 3. Practicing how to pronounce the stress on the syllable in front of the morphemes -tion, -ment is appropriate. | 80% 20% |
| 4. Practicing how to pronounce /-t/, /-d/, /-id/ for past tense verbs are appropriate. | 80% 20% |
| 5. Articulatory phonetics is useful for describing consonant sounds. | 80% 20% |

TABLE II

| TEACHERS’ OPINIONS TOWARDS TEACHING TECHNIQUE OF MIMICRY-MEMORIZATION |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Strongly agree  | Agree           | Moderate        |
| 1. Mimicry memorization activity for practicing pronunciation, vocabularies, sentences in dialogues is appropriate to your students’ ability. | 40% 40% 20% |
| 2. Practicing in pairs after mimicry-memorization activity encourage your students to ask and answer in dialogues. | 40% 40% 20% |

TABLE III

| TEACHERS’ OPINIONS TOWARDS TEACHING TECHNIQUE FOR COMPREHENSION CHECK |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Strongly agree  | Agree           |
| 1. There are sufficient vocabularies describing asking for and giving directions in the reading passage. | 40% 60% |
| 2. There are sufficient sentence structures describing asking for and giving directions in the reading passage. | 40% 60% |
| 3. Wh-questions after reading can check the students’ understanding the reading passage. | 40% 60% |
including a final task of asking the students to draw a simple map and then describe the route to their friends are good. This teacher revealed that these exercises can assist the students to use varieties of sentence for communication.

3) Teachers’ Opinions towards Adapting Teaching Materials

One teacher mentioned that the Adapted English Lessons is appropriate for Thai students. He suggested that there should be a training course for Thai teachers to train how to adapt English supplementary materials. He stated the advantages of adapting materials by local teachers are it can solve the students’ real problems and it can serve what the students really need.

4) Teachers’ Opinions towards the Adapted English Lessons

One teacher mentioned that her students are more confident in speaking and writing about asking for and giving directions by the end of the experiment than she first met them. All 5 teachers were satisfied with the adapted lessons.

D. Students’ Bio-data

There are 79 female and 6 male students in this experiment. They are in the age range of 15-16.

E. Quantitative Data from Rating Scale Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE VIII</th>
<th>STUDENTS’ OPINIONS TOWARDS LINGUISTIC PRINCIPLES FOR TEACHING PHONOLOGICAL ACCURACY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Practicing how to pronounce final sounds /-t/, /-d/, /-id/ is useful.</td>
<td>Strongly agree Agree Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Practicing how to pronounce cluster sounds /-ft/, /-st/ is useful.</td>
<td>49% 40% 11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Practicing how to pronounce stress on the syllable in front of morphemes -tion,-ment by using VDO from YouTube is useful.</td>
<td>40% 1% 1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Practicing how to pronounce /-t/, /-d/, /-id/ for past tense verbs is appropriate.</td>
<td>40% 1% 1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Qualitative Data from Open-ended Questions

1) Teachers’ Opinions towards Linguistic Principles in Teaching Phonological Accuracy

All 5 teachers mentioned that minimal pair and articulatory phonetics for teaching consonant sounds and teaching how to stress are excellent. They stated that using YouTube for teaching how to pronounce /-t/, /-d/, /-id/ and how to put stress on the syllable in front of the morphemes -tion,-ment are appropriate. Because the students prefer to listen to native speakers of English, who are good models for them to imitate how to stress and pronounce the English words correctly.

2) Teachers’ Opinions towards Language Function

All 5 teachers agreed that language function of asking for and giving directions can prepare the students use of English language for communication. One of these teachers said that exercises focusing on listening, speaking and writing including a final task of asking the students to draw a simple map and then describe the route to their friends are good. This teacher revealed that these exercises can assist the students to use varieties of sentence for communication.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE IV</th>
<th>TEACHERS’ OPINIONS TOWARDS TEACHING TECHNIQUES FOR TEACHING LISTENING SKILL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Practicing listening a dialogue from CD spoken by native speaker of English can assist your students gain listening skill.</td>
<td>Strongly agree Agree Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Asking students to repeat after the dialogue can assist your students to pronounce in word and sentence level.</td>
<td>80% 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Asking students to fill word(s) or phrase that they hear from the dialogue in the blanks can stimulate your students to pay attention in listening.</td>
<td>80% 20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE V</th>
<th>TEACHERS’ OPINIONS TOWARDS TEACHING TECHNIQUES FOR TEACHING VOCABULARY AND PREPOSITION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Reviewing how to spell vocabularies by asking students fill the letters in the blanks to construct words is suitable.</td>
<td>Strongly agree Agree Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Reviewing vocabulary activity used in warm up stage is appropriate.</td>
<td>60% 40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Using a picture and a map help your students understand the meaning of preposition.</td>
<td>80% 20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE VI</th>
<th>TEACHERS’ OPINIONS TOWARDS TEACHING TECHNIQUES FOR TEACHING LANGUAGE FLUENCY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Pair work can stimulate your students to practice English listening and speaking in a dialogue.</td>
<td>Strongly agree Agree Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Asking students to write 8-10 sentences describing the directions from school to their house is appropriate.</td>
<td>40% 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Asking students to draw a map describing the directions from school to their house is appropriate.</td>
<td>40% 60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE VII</th>
<th>TEACHERS’ OPINIONS TOWARDS THE ADAPTED ENGLISH LESSONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The Adapted English Lesson 1- Lesson 3 can assist your students gain confidence in asking for and giving directions.</td>
<td>Strongly agree Agree Moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students’ Bio-data

There are 79 female and 6 male students in this experiment. They are in the age range of 15-16.

E. Quantitative Data from Rating Scale Questions

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TABLE IX</th>
<th>STUDENTS’ OPINIONS TOWARDS TEACHING TECHNIQUE OF MIMICRY-MEMORIZATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Mimicry memorization activity for practicing pronunciation, vocabularies, sentences in dialogues is appropriate to your ability.</td>
<td>Strongly agree Agree Moderate Disagree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Practicing in pairs after Mimicry-MemORIZATION activity encourage you to ask-answer in dialogues.</td>
<td>57% 33% 5% 1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE X</th>
<th>STUDENTS’ OPINIONS TOWARDS TEACHING TECHNIQUE FOR COMPREHENSION CHECK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Reading passage is appropriate for learning asking for and giving directions.</td>
<td>Strongly agree Agree Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Wh-questions after reading help you to understand the passage.</td>
<td>54% 39% 7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TABLE XI
STUDENTS’ OPINIONS TOWARDS TEACHING TECHNIQUES FOR TEACHING LISTENING SKILL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Practicing listening a dialogue from CD spoken by native speaker of English can assist you gain listening skill.</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Asking you to fill word(s) or phrase that you hear from the dialogue in the blanks stimulate you to pay attention in listening,</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE XII
STUDENTS’ OPINIONS TOWARDS TEACHING TECHNIQUES FOR TEACHING VOCABULARY AND PREPOSITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Reviewing how to spell vocabularies by asking you fill the letters in the blanks to construct words is suitable.</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Reviewing vocabularies should be done before learning a lesson.</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Using a picture and a map help you understand the meaning of preposition.</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE XIII
STUDENTS’ OPINIONS TOWARDS TEACHING TECHNIQUES FOR TEACHING LANGUAGE FLUENCY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Pair work can stimulate you to practice speaking.</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Pair work can stimulate you to ask for and give directions with your friend.</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Asking you to write 8-10 sentences describing the directions from school to you house is appropriate.</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Asking you to draw a map describing the directions from school to your house is appropriate.</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE XIV
STUDENTS’ OPINIONS TOWARDS THE ADAPTED ENGLISH LESSONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The Adapted English Lesson 1- Lesson 3 can assist you gain confidence in asking for and giving directions.</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

F. Qualitative Data from Open-ended Questions

Some students expressed their opinions as follows:
- Lesson 1 is very useful for me because I can pronounce English sounds better and correctly.
- I know more on how to pronounce English sounds.
- It is good because I have an opportunity to practice pronunciation.
- It is very difficult for me to pronounce /θ/, but I can practice it with a teacher.
- Listening to native speakers of English from YouTube is good. I would like to listen more.
- The theme of asking for and giving directions is essential for everyday life. Lessons are understandable.
- I learn more vocabularies.
- The lessons are easy to understand and I can use the vocabularies and sentences in my everyday life.

V. DISCUSSION

A. The Effects of Applying Linguistic Principles in Teaching Phonological Accuracy

In the researcher’s opinion, there are three main factors that the Adapted English Lessons can help the teachers teach pronunciation effectively. Firstly, minimal pair can definitely distinguish 2 phonemes of /-t/ /-θ/ as well as articulatory phonetics can help the teachers explain how to pronounce phonemes physically in terms of places of articulation, manners of articulation and voicing. The second factor is the teachers’ educational background as mentioned in the teachers’ Bio-data earlier. So each teacher can be a good model of pronouncing all phonemes focused in the Adapted English Lessons. Most of the students were satisfied with practicing English pronunciation. Some of them stated that they wanted to practice more with these 5 teachers. The last factor is learning how to pronounce English sounds can serve the students’ needs. Normally, Thai students are asked to learn and practice on grammatical knowledge in morphology and syntax rather than phonology in their usual English class. [6]

B. The Effects of Applying Teaching Techniques in the Adapted English Lessons

There are 4 reasons why teaching techniques adapted in the Adapted English Lessons can be used effectively as discussed below.

1) Language Function

The language function of asking for and giving directions in English is necessary for Thai students. This language function is always used in the students’ real life. For each year there are a large amount of tourists who come to visit Thailand. Generally, they use English for communication and they always ask Thais how to get to somewhere. Then the language function of asking for and giving directions applied in the Adapted English Lessons are useful and relevant to Thai students’ everyday life. Reference [7] states that the importance of the language functions is they can be used for communication purpose.

2) Concept of Accuracy and Fluency

One of the main problems in teaching English in Thailand is that teachers see a high level of problems resulting from students’ insufficient background of the language and lack of exposure to English. [8] From the statement, it can be pointed out that Thai students need to practice both language accuracy and language fluency. The main purpose of the Adapted English Lessons is leading the students to gain sufficient language accuracy i.e. they can pronounce and stress sounds correctly and confidently, at the same time they have adequate vocabularies and sentence structures for use in informal talk and free writing task. It is now very clear that fluency and accuracy are both important goals to pursue in communicative language teaching. There are strong theoretical reasons for claiming that focus on form is not just facilitative of learning but may even be necessary. [9] It is also stated in reference [10] that students learning fluency without accuracy is one of
the problems in language teaching and learning. Pidgin language as an error might be occurred. Fluency and accuracy are two factors which determine the success of the students, who can communicate fluently with language accuracy.

3) The Multi-Syllabus

Reference [11] defines ‘multi-syllabus’ as the syllabus that shows a combination of items from grammar, lexis, language function, situations, topics, tasks, different language skills or pronunciation issues. The Adapted English Lessons can be considered as a multi-syllabus due to its components of pronunciation, vocabulary, sentence structures, language skills, language function and task-based activities. Harmer also states that as the process of learning goes on by multi-syllabus, the grammar syllabus will have to change to accommodate some of the other claims; the list of functions will shift around to accommodate the grammar, and the tasks will have to take account of the language at the students’ disposal for the performing of the tasks. In this case the students get the most benefit from practicing varieties of components provided in the Adapted English Lessons.

4) Using Native Speakers of English Sounds from CD and YouTube

From the data gained the teachers are highly satisfied with techniques of using CD and YouTube. Many students revealed that they preferred listening to native speakers of English. They wanted to listen more. An advantage of using YouTube is the students can see the movement of the speech articulations and hear the sound(s) at the same time. It can activate them in practicing phonological accuracy. Reference [12] reveals that digital media can be used to assist students in mastering grammar, vocabulary and also pronunciation.

5) Teachers’ and Students’ Opinions towards the Adapted English Lessons

The teachers and students are satisfied with the Adapted English Lesson 1-3. The teachers think that the Adapted Lessons can help their students to gain the language knowledge and the opportunities to speak and write on the language function of asking for and giving directions. The students say that they prefer learning pronunciation and exercises or activities provided. They like working in pairs. They also mention that practicing in pair work after mimicry-memorization activity encourages them to ask and answer in dialogues. They gain more confidence for writing a short essay describing the directions from school to their home.

C. The Need of Constructing Supplementary Materials for Local Use

Reference [13] mentions that the problem involved textbooks used in the countries of teaching English as a foreign language is whether they are appropriate for local context or not. Using supplementary materials is one of the choices to solve this problem. The main reason, why the Adapted Lessons can be as the useful supplementary materials at Triamudom Suksa Pattanakarn Ratchada School is that they can serve the students’ needs and lacks. That is the students want to practice English that can be used for their everyday life or can solve their problems of pronunciation such as word stress or pronounce final sounds with past verbs adding -ed. Reference [14] says that recently he has been involved in many projects to develop local materials in many countries. He clarifies that the demands of materials for local use are from teachers, as material writers, want to design materials that can meet the generalized needs and wants of actual students who are learning English in a specific environment with specific objectives.

D. Problems Occurred and the Solution

The researcher noticed that teachers spent time explaining what they are good at. Two teachers took about 130 minutes instead of 100 minutes to finish teaching the Adapted Lesson 1. They used 75 minutes for teaching pronunciation; they had only 25 minutes left for teaching mimicry-memorization activity. To solve the problem there was a discussion among 5 teachers and the researcher. It was discovered that two teachers who could not finish teaching Lesson 1 in time because it was their first time of teaching these groups of students. They explained in more details on how to pronounce sounds. They agreed that they have to manage time better next lessons. Another problem is three teachers worried at the reading comprehension. They mentioned that the students copied the answers in the phrase level from the reading passage. They wanted them to write the answers in full sentences using the students’ own words. This is one of the misunderstanding teaching concepts. To solve this problem the researcher asked these teachers whether the students should answer wh-questions in full sentences or not. From the discussion all teachers finally agreed that finding out the answers shows the students’ comprehension, and it means that the students understand the reading passage. Then it is not necessary to ask them to answer in full sentences. Furthermore, three teachers complained that the students wanted them to teach article and preposition of place even though they had already studied these 2 grammar points. The students also forgot vocabularies and expressions of giving directions when they were asked to describe the way from school to their house. To solve the problem all teachers agreed to use 3 strategies. The first strategy is the teachers should be an assistant who walk around the classroom to help when the students forget the grammar points, vocabularies or expressions. The second strategy is whenever the students get the wrong answers the teacher immediately corrects and explains the correct grammars. The third strategy is asking the less-able students to work in pairs with the more-able students who can assist the less-able ones when they have the difficulties with grammar points.

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Thai teachers who teach English should take notice about what their students’ lacks and needs are. In this case they know the students’ real problems of learning English in their school.
2. Then the teachers should be trained on adapting the efficient local materials used in their school. The idea of constructing local supplement materials should be encouraged by the Ministry of Education in Thailand.

APPENDIX

The Adapted English Lessons

Lesson 1
Asking For and Giving Directions
(Pronunciation and dialogues)
Time 100 minutes

Warm up activity
1. Look at the pictures below. Guess what they are.
2. Look at the following pictures. Write the correct letters to make the words.

1. r f l h

2. n r c o

3. T n i

4. s n s

3. Look at the signs. What do they mean?

1. t n l t

2. r r h

4. Write the correct meaning.

N stands for
S stands for
W stands for
E stands for

Review preposition
1. Match the preposition with the pictures.
behind between in next to under
in front of in the middle on
opposite on the left on the right

4. Write the correct preposition.

1. behind
2. between
3. in
4. next to
5. under
6. in front of
7. in the middle
8. on
9. opposite
10. on the left
11. on the right
2. Listen to your teacher on how to stress the words that end with -tion and -ment and repeat after him/her.

3. Practice how to stress the words that end with -tion and -ment from the websites. [26]

Dialogues and practice
Warm up activity
Instructions: Look at the picture of Dialogue 1 and answer the questions.
Who is the man?
Who is the girl? What is the man looking for?

Mimicry-memorization activity
Instructions: Repeat sentences in the dialogue after the teacher. Memorize the dialogue.
Dialogue 1

A tourist: Excuse me. Can you tell me where the nearest 1. MRT station is?
A student: Certainly, it’s not far. Walk 2. north for 200 metres and you will see the 3. traffic lights.
A tourist: I’ll see the traffic lights.
A student: Then turn left. You’ll see the 4. MRT station on your right side 5. opposite the cinema.
A tourist: Thank you.
A student: You’re welcome.

Dialogue 2

A tourist: Excuse me. Can you tell me where the nearest 1. department store is?
A student: Certainly, it’s not far. Walk 2. south for 200 metres and you will see the 3. intersection.
A tourist: I’ll see the intersection.
A student: Then turn left. You’ll see the 4. department Store on your right side 5. next to the cinema.
A tourist: Thank you.
A student: You’re welcome.

Now work in pairs and practice Dialogue 3 – Dialogue 5 by using the provided words.

Dialogue 3

1. bank 2. east 3. signpost 4. bank 5. in front of

Dialogue 4

1. police station 2. west 3. T-junction 4. police station 5. behind

Dialogue 5

1. railway station 2. north 3. signpost 4. railway station 5. beside

Production Activity

Instructions: Work in pairs. Make your dialogue and present in front of the class.

Lesson 2

Asking For and Giving Directions
(Listening, speaking and writing)
Time 100 minutes

Warm up activity

1. Review the students’ existing knowledge about asking for and giving directions by watching the VDO clip. [27]
2. Divide students into small groups of 5-6. Ask them to write down words related “directions and location” for 10 minutes. The group who can get the most words will be the winner.

Listening 1

1. Listen to a conversation. [28]
Winnie: Excuse me. Is there a post office near here?
Man: Yes, there’s a post office on Third Avenue.
Winnie: Great! How do I get there?
Man: You can walk. It’s easy! Go straight ahead, and turn left onto Main Street.
Winnie: Thanks.
Man: Then turn right at the bus station and go past the bank.
Winnie: Er.... OK. So it’s past the bank.
Man: Then turn left onto Park Road.
Winnie: Left onto Park Road I see.
Man: Yeah. Keep going and the post office is on the right, next to a large supermarket.
Winnie: Hmm. Thanks a lot.
Man: You’re welcome.
Winnie: Taxi!

2. Listen and practice. Your teacher will pause sentence by sentence.
3. Read aloud together.
4. Ask your teacher if you do not understand anything in the conversation or you can ask how to pronounce the words.

Listening 2

Instructions: 1. Listen and complete the conversation. [28]
A: Excuse me. Is there a 1. ______ near here?
B: Yes, there is. It’s on 2. ______ for 200 metres and you will see the 3. ______.
A: Then turn left. You’ll see the 4. ______ Store on your right side 5. ______.
A: Thank you.
B: You’re welcome.

Now work in pairs and practice Dialogue 2.

3. Work in pairs. Use the words to make more conversations and practice with your friend.

Conversation one: 1. bookstore 2. Fifth Avenue 3. on the right 4. florist 5. across from
Conversation two: 1. stationery store 2. Main Street 3. on the corner 4. music store 5. behind
Conversation three: 1. drugstore 2. Park road 3. near the hotel 4. shoe store 5. in front of

4. In your pair choose one conversation from Conversation one–Conversation three and draw a simple map.

Writing/ Speaking

1. Work in pairs and think of a place that is not far and you can describe how to get to in 5-8 sentences. Draw a simple map, but do not mark the route.
2. Give your map to your friend and describe your route.
3. Ask your friend and check whether your friend can draw the correct route on your map or not. If your friend cannot draw the route correctly, describe your route again.
Lesson 3

Asking For and Giving Directions
(Pronunciation, Reading and Writing)

Time 100 minutes

Instructions:
1. Watch VDO Clips and practice /-t/ /-d/ /-id/ with past tense verbs that end with -ed. [29]
   If you do not understand anything on YouTube, ask your teacher to explain more.
2. Find the words that have –ed. in the following reading passage and write on the blackboard.
3. Pronounce the words. If anyone pronounces incorrectly, correct their pronunciation together.

Reading

Instructions: Read the following passage aloud. [30]
Underline the words that you do not understand. Then ask your teacher the meaning of those words.

Kim called at Tom’s house to tell him how to go to a holiday bungalow at Pine Bay. Tom was not in, and so Kim left the following note.

Dear Tom,

I am sorry I called when you were out. This is how to reach the bungalow at Pine Bay. Tom was not in, and so Kim left the following note.

To: Tom

From: Kim

Instructions: Fill the blanks with a, the or nothing. [30]

When _______ Gimin drove into _______ Medan, he immediately began to look for _______ petrol station. He was unable to find one and so he asked at _______ restaurant. _______ owner of _______ restaurant told him to drive down _______ New Road until he reached _______ junction with Old Road. _______ Gimin turned to the left at _______ left at _______ crossroads and saw _______ petrol station 200 metres away. At that moment _______ car stopped. There was no petrol left in _______ tank. Gimin noticed that he had stopped outside _______ coffee bar and so he decided to have _______ cup of _______ coffee before he pushed _______ car for _______ last 200metres.

Exercise 2

1. Find the words that have-ed. in Exercise 1 and write down.

Exercise 3

Instructions: Choose a suitable preposition from the box to fill in the blanks. [30]

at, in, into, to, off, out of, under, down
1. The boys are playing _______ the yard.
2. Look at all those small boats _______ the harbour.
3. Mr. Lee used to live _______ Singapore, but he has recently moved _______ Bangkok. He lives _______ 304 Krung Kasem Road.
4. Miss Wiguna usually shops _______ Robinson’s Supermarket
5. Please take all your books _______ the table and put them _______ this drawer.
6. The explorer set off _______ the South Pole.
7. Kim always sits _______ the back of the class, never _______ the middle.
8. He put the money on the table before he went _______ the room.
9. Several small children were playing _______ the street when I arrived _______ Mr. Hassan’s house.
10. He ran _______ the hill and found his football ______ a car.

**Exercise 4**

**Instructions:** Reorder the words to make sentences. [30]

1. you, Go, way, until, this, station, the, gas, see

2. Take, fifth, lift, the, floor, the, to

3. blocks, minutes, right, then, Walk, and, 10, turn, for, then, walk, two, for

4. at, 145, street, the, for, Bus, wait, bus, Cross, stop, and

5. get, Store, 365, Department, Bus, off, and, at, Take, Central

6. lights, Wait, green, light, changes, the, traffic, the, until, at, to

7. you, left, Go, building, bridge, then, on, look, for, tail, under, and, the, a

8. get, and, you’ll, intersection, the, the, station, see, When, subway, the, you, road, to, cross

**Instructions:** Write 8 -10 sentences that give directions to your friends to reach your house from school. Draw a simple map to help them to find your house easily.

To get to my house,

- Instructions: ________________________________________________________________
- Instructions: ________________________________________________________________
- Instructions: ________________________________________________________________
- Instructions: ________________________________________________________________
- Instructions: ________________________________________________________________
- Instructions: ________________________________________________________________
- Instructions: ________________________________________________________________
- Instructions: ________________________________________________________________

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**REFERENCES**


