

Teachers' and Students' Perceptions of Virtual Classes and the effectiveness of Virtual Classes in Enhancing Communication Skills

Manal Hussain Al-Qahtani

Department of English, Faculty of Languages and Translation
King Khalid University, Abha, Saudi Arabia

Abstract

The use of the Internet is increasing the possibilities for language learning and teaching (Sallbego & Tumolo, 2015). Virtual classes use computer-mediated technology to facilitate learning, teaching, and communication processes. The purpose of this study is to investigate teachers' and students' perceptions of English as a foreign language (EFL) virtual classes. Moreover, it also aims to highlight the effect of this kind of class on enhancing communication skills. Therefore, the main research question is about the perceptions that students and teachers have of EFL virtual classes. This study conducted in the Female English Department at King Khalid University in Abha. The participants were thirty teachers and students who were divided into two equal groups (fifteen in each group). Regarding that, participants answered a particular questionnaire. The results show that the majority of the students and teachers possess positive attitudes toward teaching and learning through EFL virtual classes. Moreover, they also agree with the significant role of virtual courses in enhancing communication skills. Thus, implementing EFL virtual classes can be recommended as beneficial. This study states some recommendations in light of its findings.

Keywords: communication skills, perceptions, virtual classes

Cite as: Al-Qahtani, M. H. (2019). Teachers' and Students' Perceptions of Virtual Classes and the effectiveness of Virtual Classes in Enhancing Communication Skills. *Arab World English Journal, Special Issue: The Dynamics of EFL in Saudi Arabia*. 223-240.

DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.24093/awej/efl1.16>