

## **Focusing Teacher's Practices, Learners' Attitudes and Study Skills Through Action Research**

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### **Abstract**

Teaching English to first year students at university is quite challenging. After nearly a decade of the adoption of the LMD (Licence/Master/Doctorat) in Algeria, teachers have been putting focus on classroom practices and designing appropriate curricula. In this action research, the author focused on the learners' attitudes towards their teachers and towards their teachers' practices. To achieve these aims, classroom observations, collaboration with teachers teaching first year students and a set of interviews to cover the various teaching practices teachers adopt during the academic year 2013-2014 were used. The paper relied also on the analysis of the students' journals, questionnaires and interviews while learning study skills in their Methodology of the University Work's Subject. Results showed that first year students had positive attitudes towards their teachers and their teachers' practices. In addition, the majority of learners could develop their study skills' abilities, but still face difficulties in speaking, writing and vocabulary. Teachers, on their hand, argued that their students face problems in the productive skills although they have very good interpersonal relationships with first year students. The paper suggests at the end that teachers should use new methods to develop learners' competences and involve learners in the decision-making process.

**Key words:** action research, attitudes, methodology of university work, study skills, teacher's practices.