

ABSTRACT

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF TEACHERS' WRITTEN COMMENTS ON STUDENTS' WRITING.

Godfrey Clement Fisher.

The issue of teacher response is a complex one. The purpose of this thesis is to investigate the effectiveness of teacher response on students' writing and make suggestions for pedagogical instructions.

The research is quantitative and two groups were used. One group was used for the experiment and the other a comparable group involving the researcher and one other teacher. Two types of commentaries were used: directive and facilitative along with a mark scheme using Criterion Reference Testing.

Two questionnaires and three essays were administered and the frequency of responses per item computer generated. The results show that students benefit from teacher response when it forms part of an on-going dialogue with the student.

Key words: Godfrey Clement Fisher: teacher response; facilitative and directive commentary.