

This study is a report of a project carried out in the area of curriculum development to upgrade the ability in training college students to use and teach the structural patterns of the English Language within the Jamaican language situation. It examines the types of errors in structural usage common in the work of pupils of the lower grades of a secondary school as well as those of a class of student teachers specializing in the teaching of English to similar grades, and reports on the frequency with which these errors occur in the writing of these student teachers before and after a six-month exposure to a course designed by the researcher to help student teachers understand and overcome their own problems in using English Language structures appropriately.

The study further describes this course as it seeks to help students face the teaching of structures with more confidence by improving their own ability to use English Language structures and by exposing themselves to appropriate techniques for the teaching of structures. In addition, the ability of these student teachers to incorporate the techniques learned into the preparation of units of work for the practice of English structures is evaluated.

The overall results and their implications are also given.