

A Case Study for Quality Research towards Education System Enhancement in Myanmar

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ABSTRACT]: As a case study, this paper has an attempt to investigate the quality research focusing education system enhancement in Myanmar leading to the prosperity of the nation from ten previous researches done by M.A (TEFL) students from Yangon University of Education. It took a month. It was conducted with ‘two model approach’, part of the multidisciplinary approach by Nuopponen (1994). Self-observation was used as the research tool. Data were collected and analyzed with qualitative research method. Due to the findings, data collections and data analysis of the previous researches done by most of these candidates were very consistent with the research questions, aims and objectives of doing their research. But, there were some necessities in achieving in research aims and objectives in some papers. Nevertheless, all papers accomplished the purposes of doing researches more or less. In brief, all findings from the research will be supportive for further research related to quality research.

Key words- multidisciplinary approach, quality research

INTRODUCTION

In this section, there are six parts. They are background of the study, scope of the study, aim and objectives, rationale and research questions.

Background of the Study

It is important for a country to encourage doing more researches in all sectors to build up a modern and developed country. This is because doing researches in different areas can create many opportunities to trace the strengths and weaknesses in these sectors, especially in education. In Myanmar, the civilian-led government is encouraging to do researches in education sector more than before so that the better and more effective

education system can be built up with the well-prepared technique under international norms. Now, the civilian-led government is having a great attempt to enhance the education system towards the prosperity of the nation by using National Education Strategic Plan (2016-2021). According to this plan, the national education reforms are being conducted not only for the Basic Education but also for the Higher Education. Now new teaching curriculums for Basic Education have been drawn and they are being used for Basic Education. For example, English course books and other teaching and learning aids have been upgraded

consistently with the international norms. For example, all lessons in English text books from Grade 1 to Grade 10 except Grade 5 and Grade 8 have been recently designed to cover the language competency of the students. These text books are being used to teach the students from private and government schools in order to improve their communicative skills, but, it is required to do the assessment whether these new English text books are useful and effective in teaching and learning English in classrooms in deed or not. So it becomes necessary to do the researches concerning the development of the communicative skills of the students by using the currently used English textbooks.

But it is crucial that these researches are to be qualified and applied to evaluate the strengths and weakness of using new English text books. In the previous study, the scholars, named Pär Mårtenssona, professor from Department of Management and Organization, Stockholm School of

Scope of the Study

This research paper focuses on only ten previous research papers written by ten candidates who were going to take

Economic, Uno Forsb, Department of Computer and Systems Sciences, Stockholm University and Sven-Bertil Wallinc, Department of Marketing and Strategy, Stockholm School of Economics Udo Zanderd, and Department of Neurobiology, Care Sciences and Society, Karolinska Institute used the multidisciplinary approach to reveal the quality research.

Adopting the previous research, in this research paper, by using ‘two model approach’, part of the multidisciplinary approach, the researcher has the attempt to investigate the quality research from ten previous research papers done by ten M.A (TEFL) candidates from Yangon University of Education concerning the development of teaching communicative skills and translation of the students with new English text books prepared consistently with the new curriculum drawn due to the National Strategic Plan. The research procedure and findings of this research will be studied in the next sections.

Master degrees of Teaching English as Foreign Language (TEFL) from Yangon University of Education from 2015 to 2019 in order to observe the quality research on the development in teaching

communicative skills and translation of the students from elementary to tertiary level in EFL classrooms.

Aim and Objectives of the Study

The aim of doing this study is to investigate the quality research focusing education system enhancement from previous researches done by M.A (TEFL) students from Yangon University of Education related to teaching the development of communicative skills and translation of the students from elementary to tertiary level in EFL classrooms. The objectives of doing this research are to generally observe the quality research based on previous researches, analyze whether the findings of these researches achieved their aims and objectives and analyze whether these researches are qualified to enhance education system in Myanmar.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In this section, there are two parts: theories of the scholars and the previous study of the scholars.

Theories of the scholars

Multidisciplinary Approach

Due to www.definitions.net,

Multidisciplinary is something that combines several fields of study or academic interests. An example of a multidisciplinary course of study is

Rationale

This research aims at observing the quality research based on previous researches relating to the development of teaching communicative skills of the students from elementary to tertiary level students and this research can focus Education System Enhancement towards the prosperity of the nation.

Research Questions

There are three research questions. They are as follows:

- ✓ Can all targeted research papers achieve their aims and objectives?
- ✓ Can all these research papers be said to be qualified?
- ✓ Can the quality research be investigated from these previous researches towards education system enhancement in Myanmar?

when you study math, science, English and history.

Due to www.longdom.org,

Multidisciplinary is an approach to curriculum integration which focuses primarily on the different disciplines and the diverse perspectives they bring to illustrate a topic, theme or issue. A multidisciplinary curriculum is one in which the same topic is studied from the viewpoint of more than one discipline.

Quality Research

According to Dash, 2009; Grinnell, 2009

“There is broad criticism of the so-called linear model of science, and it is argued that concepts such as intuition and passion have become just as important as objectivity and logic, and there are several very different views on, and definitions of, research practice.”

According to, Jiménez- Contreras al., 2003 wrote:

As the evaluation of research practice is one of our end-goals, we may also need to define what we mean by evaluation. In our view, the practice of evaluation can be defined as an activity in which certain aspects of the quality of research practice are investigated. But what does this really mean? The ambition to evaluate research has a long history that is full of tensions, ambiguities and misunderstandings.

Mathieson, 2005 wrote an often cited definition of evaluation

multidisciplinary approach, there are some methodologies to research practice: working group, concepts modeling and related standards concept modeling and graphical representations, the ‘two model approach’.

Working group

In this activity, there must have a working group that involves four senior researchers with extensive academic experience and one senior modeling expert is formed in a network .The group members must have experience in various research

However “. . .a process for collecting and synthesizing evidence that can make conclusions about the state of affairs, value, merit, worth, significance or quality of a program, product . . each practice”. which implies that evaluation can use numerous methods and mea-sure a wide variety of aspects.

According to the above theories of the respective scholars, a multidisciplinary approach includes multiple disciplines to redefine problems outside of normal boundaries and reach solutions based on a new understanding of complex situations. It is a kind of scientific research method involving the practice of evaluation to extract quality research which is accessible to be applied in research fields.

fields, including medicine, dentistry, computer science, systems sciences, social sciences, educational research, healthcare informatics, management strategy, international business and business modeling. All of the researchers in the group also must have experience of different universities and institutions In order to structure the discussions and the work of the group, concept modeling and an analysis of the concepts related to the quality research. Initially, the goal for the working group was defined, and broad limits of the model were set to include

all relevant concepts for describing and following up research in a multidisciplinary perspective.

Concepts modeling and related standards

According to Nuopponen, 1994, when working towards the goal of trying to find a general model of what research is, it was considered important to define different criteria (or concepts) that can describe the phenomenon of 'research practice'. These criteria should make it possible to separate research from other practices, such as, for example, journalism. Therefore, as an aid to defining the criteria, concept modeling was considered to be a possible way forward. In many respect concept models provide a particularly interesting focus when looking at complex concepts like 'research'. They can be regarded as systems consisting of several components (concepts) and the relations between these components (concept relations). Generally, these models can give us a better understanding of how our work and knowledge are organized, and they often reveal opportunities for simplification and for identifying problems when different professions are interacting. They are fundamental

to information-based organizations and are of special importance to specialists.

Concept modeling and graphical representations

According to Shewchuk et al., 2006, concept models have been developed in several projects where there has been a need to map concepts and knowledge. In Sweden, for instance, the National Board of Health and Welfare has defined the concepts of healthcare and social services by using concept modeling and these concepts are now used by the entire health-care sector. There are also other types of mapping available; for example, cognitive mapping has been used, inter alia, to understand what healthcare journals represent representations

In this method and its notation, concepts are represented as rectangles and associations (attributes) by lines and arrows. Specific concepts are written in italics in the text, and the name of the attribute is to be read in the direction of the arrow. By using cardinality we can make the model more stringent by specifying how the elements of the two concepts interrelate or associate, in terms of:– 1

one and only one– 0.1 zero or one– 1.*
 one or many– * zero or many.

The ‘two model approach’

It is called the concept model and it is used as a reference model that describes what research is in a neutral way, and it can also be seen as a common language about research. This reference model helps us to reason about quality aspects in a methodical way by means of reusing the concepts and their inherent definitions in quality. By describing the quality statements in this way, it is sure that the quality statements are comparable and coherent according to the reference model. There are two phases of this approach: concept model of research and concept hierarchy of research quality and related defined terms_ credible, contributory, communicable, and conforming.

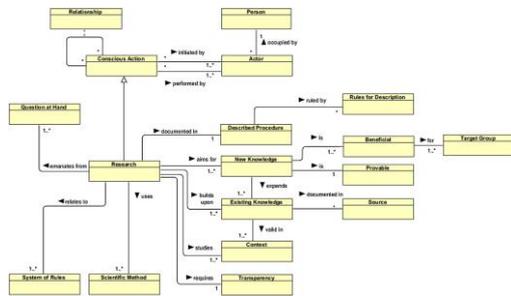


Figure .1 Concept model of research by Nuopponen (1994)

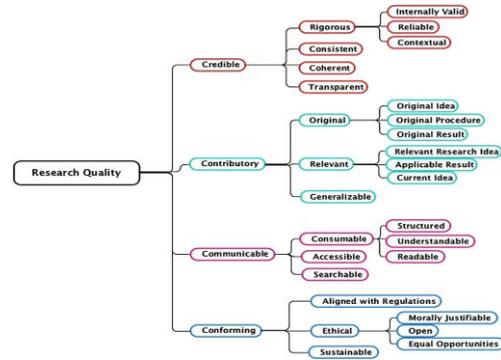


Figure.2 Concept hierarchy of research quality by Nuopponen (1994)

Previous Study of the scholars

According to previous related literature, the scholars named Pär Mårtenssona, a professor from Department of Management and Organization, Stockholm School of Economic, Uno Forsb , a professor from Department of Computer and Systems Sciences, Stockholm University, Sven-Bertil Wallinc, a professor from Department of Marketing and Strategy, Stockholm School of Economics, Udo Zanderd, a professor from Department of Neurobiology, Care Sciences and Society, Karolinska Institute did a research to trace quality research by using multidisciplinary approach. The aim of doing this research was to describe what constitutes research, and then to use this description to develop a model of research practice and to define concepts related to its quality. The

primary objective was to explore such a model and create a multidisciplinary understanding of the generic dimensions of the quality of research practice. Eight concept modeling working seminars were conducted. A graphic representation of concepts and their relationships was developed to bridge the gap between different disciplines. A concept model of research as a phenomenon was created, which included a total of 18 defined concepts and their relationships. In a second phase four main areas were distilled describing research practice in a multidisciplinary context: Credible,

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this section, there are two main parts: research design and research procedure.

Research Design

To design this research, there are four following facts: sample, instrumentation, and period and research method. The researcher used 'two model approach' part of the multidisciplinary approach to conduct this research.

Sample

In this research, ten previous research papers as theses written by ten candidates who were attending the master degree course for teaching

Contributory, Communicable, and Conforming. Each of these was further specified in a concept hierarchy together with a defined terminology. A comprehensive quality model including 32 concepts, based on the four main areas, was developed for describing quality issues of research practice, where the model of research as a phenomenon was used to define the quality concepts. The quality model may be used for further development of elements weights and operationalization related to the quality of research practice in different academic fields.

English as A Foreign Language (TEFL) at Yangon University of education from 2015 to 2019 were as used as sample.

Instrumentation

In this research, self-observation was used as the research tool.

Research Period

To do this research, it took a month.

Research Method

As the research method, the researcher used the qualitative research method.

Research Procedure

In this part, there are two steps to accomplish this research: collecting data

by self-observing and analyzing the data.

Collecting Data and Data Analysis

In this section, there are two parts: listing the data of previous researches

No	Name of Candidate	Year of doing research	Thesis Title	Aim (thesis)	Findings
1	Ma Toe Toe Lwin	2015	Some Effective Ways to overcome difficulties in teaching Grammar to False Beginners	To overcome difficulties in teaching Grammar	Some students had the great achievement in learning grammar
2	Ma May Pwint Phyu	2015	The Use of Teaching Aids in Effectiveness in ELT Context Of Grade XI Students	To focus the needs to make English Language Lessons easy, enjoyable and effective	The use of teaching aids made teaching effective in some extent
3	Ma Thida Min	2016	Effective ways of Teaching Listening Lessons to the Trainees from Patheingyi Education College	To improve trainees' listening skill more than the current level	All trainees got high scores in post-test than pre-test
4	Ma Htet Htet Aung	2016	The Use of Multimedia in Developing Listening Skill of Tertiary Level Students	To develop listening skill of the students by using multimedia	Teaching listening was very effective by using multimedia
5	Ma Yee Mon Ko Ko	2016	Developing Young Learners'	To develop young learners	The development of the young

done by ten M.A candidates and analyzing these data with 'two model approach'.

Table.1 Listing the data of previous researches of M.A candidates

			Reading Skill Through O Henry's Short Stories	'reading skill	learners' listening skill was obtained in some extent
6	Ma Hnin Su Wai	2016	Improving Productive skill of Pre-Intermediate students with the Help of Pictures	To improve productive skill of the students	Their improvement in productive skill was very significant
7	Mg Kyaw Khing	2017	Developing Pre-School Children's Speaking Skill with the Use of Audio-Visual Aids	To examine whether the use of audio-visual aids can develop children's Speaking Skill	Using audio-visual aids could develop children's Speaking Skill more or less
8	Ma Min Min Htaik	2018	Benefits of Using Fairy Tales to develop reading skill of Elementary Learners	To develop reading skill of Elementary Learners by using Fairy Tales	Learners' reading skill could be developed
9	Ma Soe Soe Wai	2019	Using Short Stories as a tool in Uplifting reading skill of the students	To uplift reading skill of the students by using short stories	Students were very enjoyable in reading short stories and they could improve their reading skill

10	Mg Htoo Aung	2019	Using Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's famous Speeches to develop	To develop translation skill of the students by using famous speeches	Students' Translation skill developed to some extent
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			translation skill of the tertiary level students	s	
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Table. 2 Analyzing ten previous M.A (TEFL) researches with 'two model approach'

No	Title	Quality Research			
		Credible	Contributory	Communicable	conforming
1.	Some Effective Ways to overcome difficulties in teaching Grammar to False Beginners	*	*	*	*
2.	The Use of Teaching Aids in Effectiveness in ELT Context Of Grade XI Students	*	*	*	*
3	Effective ways of Teaching Listening Lessons to the Trainees from Patheingyi Education College	*		*	*
4	The Use of Multimedial				

	dia in Developing Listening Skill of Tertiary Level Students	*	*	*	*
5	Developing Young Learners' Reading Skill Through O Henry's Short Stories		*	*	*
6	Improving Productive skill of Pre-Intermediate students with the Help of Pictures	*	*	*	*
7	Developing Pre-School Children's Speaking Skill with the Use of Audio-Visual Aids	*	*	*	*
8	Benefits of Using Fairy Tales to develop reading skill of	*	*	*	*

	Elementary Learners				
9	Using Short Stories as a tool in Uplifting reading skill of the students	*	*	*	*
1	Using				

0	Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's famous Speeches to develop translation skill of the tertiary level students			*	*
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FINDINGS

Depending on all data from all ten previous M.A thesis research based on two model approach and responses from interviewing the teaching staff, it was found that it is quite difficult to keep the quality research according to the 'two model' approach that I have earlier mentioned above.

First of all, In accordance with table 2, all data collected from observing ten previous researches based on 'two model' approach were analyzed with qualitative research method. Due to data analysis, eight research papers are credible because all data in these researches are valid, reliable, transparent and consistent with research questions of these papers more or less. But the two other papers listed in No. (5) and No. (10) are not credible because collected

data from these papers are not transparent and reliable with their research questions. Besides, there is no clear validity in data collection and data analysis.

Findings from all research papers except research paper No. (3) and No. (10) are contributory because they are relevant with the aim and objectives of doing these researches. This is because findings from these two papers cannot be said to relevant with aims and objectives of the thesis. Nevertheless, findings from above all listed research papers can be accessible to apply for further researches because they are communicable and searchable. Furthermore, all M.A thesis papers are conforming because data from all of them are justified to ethics, regulations and sustainable. It is found that most of

these theses were consistent with the quality research towards education system enhancement being done by the civilian-led government to some extent.

DISCUSSION

In this research, the researcher collected ten previous researches written by ten M.A (TEFL) candidates attending Yangon University of Education from 2015 to 2019. Of all ten theses, the eight ones were concerned with developing skills and the rest twos are related to teaching aids and translation. In all research papers, the used sample is students from elementary to tertiary level. Now, in Myanmar, the civilian-led government is encouraging to do researches in education sector more than before so that the better and more effective education system can be built up with the well-prepared techniques. The civilian-led government is trying to enhance the education system towards the prosperity of the nation by using National Education Strategic Plan (2016-2021). According to this plan, the national education reforms are being conducted not only for the Basic Education but also for the Higher Education.

Now new teaching curriculums for Basic Education have been drawn and they are being used for Basic Education. English course books and other teaching and learning aids have been upgraded consistently with the internationals. According to above findings from the research, all M.A theses are conforming because data from all of them are justified to ethics, regulations and sustainable so that collected data proved that the new course books and texts prepared with the international norms can lead the education system enhancement and this is focusing the prosperity of the nation. Furthermore, findings from the research show that communicative skills of sample students from the Elementary Level to Tertiary Level in Myanmar could have been improved which can lead to education system enhancement. It will also assist to achieve in drawing the new curriculum and some effective courses designed with the international norms leading to education system enhancement in Myanmar. This will be beneficial to education system enhancement done by the civilian-led government focusing the prosperity of the nation. In brief, it can be said that

most of them had the quality research more or less.

CONCLUSION

It is true that doing research is essential in education because it can assist the education system enhancement. This can lead to the development of education system focusing the prosperity of the nation. But these researches need to have the good quality. In this research, the researcher attempted to explore research quality from ten previous theses papers written by ten candidates from Yangon University of Education from 2015 to 2019. This research was conducted with 'two model approach'. It

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took a month. Self-observation was used as the research tool. Data from this research were collected and analyzed with the qualitative research method. In brief, due to the findings of this research, all ten previous research papers accomplished the purposes of the researches more or less. Besides, their findings can assist education system enhancement in Myanmar in accordance with the international norms being initiated by the civilian-led government. Furthermore, most of all thesis papers had the quality research more or less. In brief, all findings from this research will be supportive for further research related to quality research.

advice and encouragement in doing this research.

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