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LEARNER DEVELOPMENT

AUNCHALEE CHATGITISAN. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THAI SELF-DIRECTED LEARNERS' CHARACTERISTICS. THESIS ADVISORS: SOMKID ISARAWATANA, Ph.D., BOONLUE TONG-YOO, Ed.D., YAOVALAK SAIVICHIT, B.Cs. 118 p. ISBN 974-662-911-5

This study investigates how to develop self-directed learners' characteristics. The study involves a purposive sample of 20 persons who were self-directed learners. Structured interview was used to collect data.

The results were as follows:

1. Observational ability was developed by providing an explanation of an object to be observed, and then providing a supportive environment where the learner could observe the object independently.

2. Creativity was developed by establishing supportive experience or environment to encourage the learners to become self learners.

3. Practicality was developed by encouraging learners to perform their study by themselves and also giving them supportive experience and environment to achieve their study goals.

However, it was essential to give consideration to learners' individuality, for instance their observation ability, enthusiasm, sedulity, patience, commitment, discipline, experience and knowledge.

The conclusions were:

1. If the learners completed their tasks by themselves, their observational ability, creativity and practicality were enhanced.

2. The instructors have important roles in providing a supportive environment and conditions to the learners.

3. The learners' characteristics, particularly love of learning, perseverance, commitment and patience, affected self-directed learning.