

Pramote Borisut 2010: Second Language Acquisition of Thai Bilingual Students in Terms of Speaking: A Case Study of Sarasas Witaed Bangbuathong School. Master of Arts (English for Specific Purposes), Major Field: English for Specific Purposes, Department of Foreign Languages. Thesis Advisor: Mrs. Sujunya Wilawan, Ph.D. 157 pages.

This study aims to investigate the factors and their influences affecting the acquisition of English speaking-skills in Grade 6 bilingual students, and also the difficulties in oral communication encountered by students and the coping methods they employ. There were twelve students (six males and six females) participating in this case study. Three groups of data were collected; classroom observation: the students behaviors, interactions, and participation were observed in their normal class environment, semi-structured interview: all students were interviewed individually, and unstructured interview of the students' English teacher.

The study revealed that attentiveness, motivation, English interaction with classmates and class participation all have significant effect on students' language acquisition. Even in a bilingual environment, deficiencies in these areas effectively reduced the students' opportunities to acquire English-speaking skills, resulting in difficulties in oral communication. These difficulties included problems with limited vocabulary, sentence structure, tenses, subject-verb agreement and pronunciation.

Research observed that the students employed the coping methods which are use of synonyms, message adjustment, communication avoidance, code switching, appealing for assistance, consulting a dictionary and gesturing. In the same manner as result, the teacher interviews confirmed and highlighted the data from the classroom observations and the semi-structured interviews.

---

Student's signature

---

Thesis Advisor's signature