國立政治大學英國語文學系碩士在職專班碩士論文

指導教授:葉潔宇博士

Advisor: Dr. Chieh-yue Yeh

透過文化學習提升國中英語低成就者英語學習態度之研究

A Study on Motivating JHS English Low Achievers

through Cultural Learning

研究生:朱秋怡撰

Name: Chiou-yi Ju

中華民國 九十五 年 六 月

June, 2006

碩士在職專班碩士論文

【透過文化學習提升國中英語低成就者英語學習態度之研究】

朱秋怡 撰

A Study on Motivating JHS English Low Achievers through Cultural Learning

A Master Thesis
Presented to
Department of English,

National Chengchi University

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Arts

by Chiou-yi Ju June 26

The members of the Committee approve the thesis of Chiou-yi Ju defended on June 26. Dr. Chieh-yue Yeh **Professor Directing Thesis** Dr. Yi-hsuan Lo Committee Member Dr. Chin-chi Chao Committee Member Approved:

To Chieh-yue Yeh 獻給我的恩師葉潔宇教授

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my deepest and sincerest gratitude to my advisor, Dr. Chieh-yue Yeah, for her patient guidance and encouragement throughout my research. She read and reread the drafts of my thesis and provided useful and valuable suggestions for revisions. Without her recommendation and warmness, I would not have been able to complete the thesis.

For their reading of the manuscript and for helpful suggestions and other support, I am sincerely grateful to Dr. Yi-shan Lo and Dr. Chin-chi Chao for their serving as my committee members supporting the research. Also I would like to thank my students in class 303 and 304 Hinchu County Hsinhou Junior High School for their cooperation in the experiment of this study.

Finally, my heart-felt thanks go to my family for their concern and support. Thanks for my husband's assistance in figures drafting and efficient housekeeping which has made the work possible. My beloved daughters also contribute to my thesis for their comfort and encouragement in the process of thesis writing.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTSiv
TABLE OF CONTENTSv
LIST OF TABLESx
LIST OF FIGURESxi
CHINESE ABSTRACTxii
ENGLISH ABSTRACTxiii
CHAPTER
1. INTRODUCTION
1.1 Background and Motivation
1.1.1 Culture learning in language learning1
1.1.2 Low-achievers in junior high school in Taiwan
1.1.3 Culture learning and low-achievers' language learning motivation3
1.2 Research Rationale
1.3 Purpose of the Study6
1.4 Importance of the Study7
1.5 Research Questions
1.6 Framework of the Study7
2. LITERATURE REVIEW9
2.1 Attitude and Motivation in Foreign Language Learning
2.1.1 Concept of attitude and motivation9
2.1.2 The relationship of attitude and motivation in foreign language
learning11

2.1.3 Studies on the interrelationship between attitude and language	
learning1	12
2.1.3.1 Positive relationship between one's attitude and language	
learning1	2
2.1.3.2 Negative and irrelevant relationship between one's attitude and	
language learning1	14
2.1.3.3 Attitudes toward foreign language learning—nurtured1	16
2.1.4 Summary of the section	18
2.2 Culture Learning and Foreign Language Learning1	.8
2.2.1 Necessity of culture learning in language learning	8
2.2.2 Difficulties in culture teaching2	20
2.2.3 Goals of culture teaching	21
2.2.4 Suggestions and techniques of teaching culture	24
2.2.5 Studies on culture teaching and English learning in Taiwan2	28
2.2.6 Summary of the section	31
2.3 Low Achievers	1
2.3.1 Definition of low achievers	32
2.3.2 Characteristics of low achievers	33
2.3.3 Factors resulting in underachievement	33
2.3.4 Low achievers' English learning in Taiwan	36
2.3.5 Other treatments to low achievers' language learning	38
2.3.6 Summary of the section	39
2.4 Summary	Ω

3. RESEARCH METHOD	41
3.1 General Method	41
3.2 Subjects	41
3.2.1 Selection of the subjects	42
3.2.2 Background of the subjects	44
3.3 Instruments	44
3.3.1 Questionnaire on English learning attitude and motivation	45
3.3.1.1 Questionnaire construction	45
3.3.1.2 Content and format of the questionnaire	46
3.3.2 Questionnaires on culture learning feedbacks	47
3.3.3 The follow-up interview	48
3.4 Procedures	49
3.4.1 Pretest	50
3.4.2 Culture learning treatment	50
3.4.3 Post-test	50
3.4.4 The periodical questionnaires on low achievers' feedback	toward
culture	51
3.4.5 The follow-up interview	51
3.5 Material—Cultural Learning Program	51
3.5.1 The rationale of material design	52
3.5.2 Cultural learning sessions	54
3.6 Variables	56
3.7 Data Analysis	56

4. RESULTS58
4.1 Analysis of SELAM Questionnaire on English Low Achievers' English
Learning Attitude
4.1.1 Results of t-test on English learning attitude59
4.1.2 Results of t-test on general interest in English60
4.1.3 Results of t-test on sociocultural attitudes toward English60
4.1.4 Results of t-test on desire and attitude to learn English61
4.1.5 Results of paired t-test on the change of English learning attitude
before and after the culture learning62
4.2 Analysis of English Low Achievers' Questionnaires on Each Session of
Culture Learning64
4.2.1 General attitude toward culture learning sessions64
4.2.2 Reflections on the culture learning sessions
4.2.3 Suggestions on the content and process of the culture learning
sessions
4.3 Analysis of the Follow-up Interview81
4.3.1 Subjects' English learning attitude after the culture learning program82
4.3.2 Subjects' culture learning reflections
4.3.2.1 Subjects' feedbacks on the culture learning program84
4.3.2.2 Subjects' favorite topics85
4.3.2.3 Subjects' difficulties concerning the culture learning program87
4.3.2.4 Subjects' suggestions on the whole culture learning program88
4.3.3 Summary of the Interview90
5. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION
5.1 Discussion of the Findings

5.1.1 Effectiveness of culture learning on English low achievers' English	
learning attitude9	2
5.1.1.1 Subjects' English learning attitude after the treatment of	
culture learning9	3
5.1.1.2 Subjects' desire and motive to learn English after culture	
learning9	5
5.1.2 English low achievers' culture learning mode96	5
5.1.2.1 Content of low achievers' culture learning90	5
5.1.2.2 Process of low achievers' culture learning10	0
5.1.3 Summary of the findings	2
5.2 Pedagogical Implications of the Results104	4
5.2.1 Necessity of supplementing a culture learning project with	
additional measures	4
5.2.2 Decision of the educational purpose and goal for low achievers'	
culture learning10	7
5.3 Limitations of the Study	8
5.4 Suggestions for Further Study	9
5.5 Conclusion	0
APPENDIX A: Students' English Learning Attitude and Motivation	
Questionnaire113	3
APPENDIX B: Cultural Learning Feedback Questionnaire	5
APPENDIX C: Worksheet of Culture Study116	5
APPENDIX D: Lesson Plan of Culture Study Unit	0
REFERENCES12	2

LIST OF TABLES

Table P	age
Table 2.1. General Reasons for Underachievement (with Examples)	.34
Table 3.1. T-test of the Subjects' English Achievement Test Scores for the	
Control Group and Experimental Group	.43
Table 3.2. The Schedule and General Introduction of the Culture Learning	
Project	.54
Table 4.1. T-test of the Pretest and the Post-test Means of SELAM	
Questionnaire	.59
Table 4.2. T-test of the Means of "General Interest in English Learning"	.60
Table 4.3. T-test of the Means of "Sociocultural attitude toward English"	.61
Table 4.4. T-test of the Means of "Desire and Attitude to Learn English"	62
Table 4.5. Paired T-test for the Change of English Learning Attitude	63
Table 4.6. What impressed the subjects most in the culture learning session	.73
Table 4.7. Subjects' Comments on the Culture Learning Project	75
Table 4.8. Subjects' Difficulties in the Culture Learning Sessions	76
Table 4.9. Subjects' Suggestions on the Culture Learning Sessions	79

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
Figure 2.1. Concept of Motivation and Attitude in Relevance to Language	
Learning	12
Figure 3.1. A Flow Chart of the Experimental Procedures	45
Figure 4.1. Average Scores of Subjects' Attitude toward Each Culture Learn	ning
Unit	65
Figure 4.2. Average Scores of Each Subject's Learning Attitude toward the	
Whole	66
Figure 4.3. Average Scores of Subjects' Concentration on Each Culture Lea	ırning
Unit	67
Figure 4.4. Average Scores for Each Subject's Concentration in the Culture	
Learning Sessions	68
Figure 4.5. Average Scores of Subjects' Evaluation on the Culture Learning	5
Attraction in Each Culture Learning Unit	69
Figure 4.6. Average Scores of Each Subject's Evaluation on the Culture	
Learning Attraction	70
Figure 4.7. Ratio of Subjects' Clarification of the Cultural Topic in Each Cu	ılture
Learning Unit	71
Figure 4.8. Ratio of Each Subject's Clarification of the Cultural Topics of the	ne
Culture Learning Sessions	72
Figure 4.9. Subjects' Favorite Topic in the Culture Learning Project	86

國立政治大學英國語文學系碩士在職專班 碩士論文提要

論文名稱:透過文化學習提升國中英語低成就者英語學習態度之研究

指導教授:葉潔宇博士

研究生:朱秋怡

論文提要內容:

本研究旨在探討國中英語低成就生接受一文化學習計畫之後,對於英語本身學習態度之成效影響,並藉由此實驗進而探究英語科低成就者最佳的文化學習模式。本研究採等組前後測準實驗之設計,研究對象爲新竹縣一所中型國中的九年級的英語科低成就學生,總共三十人。將受試者隨機等程度分配到對照組和實驗組各十五人。研究期間,實驗組進行每週一節共十週的文化學習活動,而對照組則於同時間自修英語功課,但無任何學習活動。資料之收集包括有研究者參考文獻編製的英語態度問卷調查、文化單元學習回饋問卷、及追蹤訪談。

本研究以「英語學習態度」,分別測量受試者在實驗處理前、後在英語學習態度上的反應情形,所得資料以獨立樣本 t 檢定及配對 t 檢定分析,同時以實驗組成員所填寫的文化單元學習回饋問卷、及追蹤訪談結果作進一步研究結果佐證及補充分析。

本研究結果顯示實驗組於接受文化學習計劃後,其整體的英語學習態度問卷分數,有意義優於對照組,其中尤以其對英文概括性的態度及對英文的社會文化態度有顯著性改變。但實驗組英語學習動機分數並無有意義高於控制組,且受試者於訪談中表達其課後英語學習態度尤無明顯改變。另文化學習單元回饋問卷的分析,亦顯示英語低成就者對文化學習過程及內容的偏好。據研究結果,研究者對英語低成就者的文化學習設計及未來相關研究提出數點建議。

ABSTRACT

The study was to investigate whether culture learning can efficiently and effectively improve low-achievers' English learning attitude and to perceive the characteristics of English low achievers' culture learning.

A total of 30 JHS English low achievers, matched into two groups—the experimental group and the control group participated in the study. SELAM Questionnaire was distributed to each subject before and after the treatment, the culture learning project, to perceive the change of their English learning attitude. The pretest and posttest scores of SELAM Questionnaire were examined by the software SAS (Statistic Analysis System) Version 9.1, including t-test and paired t-test. Besides, the interval CLF Questionnaires and the follow-up interview were analyzed to provide the answer to the qualitative study on English low achievers' optimal culture learning mode.

The results of the study were summarized as follows. (1) The subjects' overall learning attitudes toward English were significantly and positively affected by the cultural learning project especially their general attitude and social cultural attitudes toward English learning but the culture learning project exerted no evident effect on their desire and motive to learn. (2) In terms of culture learning content, the subjects' interest in the culture project was highly related to the content of the culture study unit—cultural materials relevant to their background knowledge and catering to their preferences could lead to their more active learning involvement. (3) As to the culture learning process, English low achievers' culture learning requires a lower pace of culture instruction, more instructional repetition, a variety of cultural learning activities and cultural instructors' attention to their ongoing learning feedbacks is in need in English low achievers' culture learning process.

The major findings of this study suggested that a culture learning project experience helped significantly to enhance English low-achievers' English learning attitude but other measures should be adopted to sustain their motivation to learn and affirmative attitude toward English learning.