

# Review of: "Exploring Discrimination Faced by Non-Native English Teachers in the Israeli School System: A Mixed-Methods Study"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear Qeios Team

Please find enclosed my review to the manuscript entitled

Review of: "Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) for English Teachers as an Effective Alternative Framework for Professional Development"

Overall, the authors should comprehensively revise this manuscript especially the introduction section. The following are my comments and suggestion on the manuscript.

The first paragraph flaws revolve mostly around clarity, organization, and engagement. Revising the paragraph to address these flaws would improve the introduction's effectiveness in explaining the goal of the study and grabbing the reader's interest.

For examples:

1. The introduction lacks an attractive hook or opening sentence to grab the reader's interest. Beginning with a statistic on the number of English speakers in the globe is useful, but it does not attract the reader into the topic.
2. The paragraph is quite long, with multiple complicated ideas condensed into a single sentence. This can make it difficult for readers to quickly understand the important elements. Clarity and readability would improve if the content was broken down into smaller, more digestible sentences.
3. The terms "English as a Second Language (ESL)" and "English as a Foreign Language (EFL)" are used interchangeably in the paragraph. Readers may be confused by this repetition. It is preferable to introduce these terms only once and then utilize them consistently throughout the essay.
4. The paragraph lacks a distinct thesis statement or a key argument to which the article is attempting to respond. Readers should be aware of the study's major focus from the start.
5. The paragraph discusses certain research (for example, Dehbozorgi, 2012; Butler, 2007; rva and Medgyes, 2000) without clarifying their relation to the issue or the objectives of the study. It would be beneficial to explain briefly why these

studies are cited and how they relate to the study being presented.

6. The paragraph says "numerous students exhibiting a preference for NESTs over NNESTs," yet there is no context or data to back up this claim. A brief history or context for this choice would bolster the argument.

7. Because the paragraph lacks flow and consistency, readers will struggle to follow the logical evolution of ideas. The general structure might benefit from clear transitions between sentences and ideas.

The flaws of the second paragraph revolve mostly around clarity, structure, and involvement. Revising the paragraph to address these flaws would improve the introduction's effectiveness in explaining the goal of the study and grabbing the reader's interest. Furthermore, offering more context and clear linkages between ideas and research cited would improve the introduction's overall quality.

For examples:

1. The paragraph states "prevailing misconceptions about English language instructors" without providing any context or background. Without additional information, readers might not understand the nature of these misconceptions.

2. Phillipson (1992) and Edwards (1982) are mentioned without describing how these studies relate to the issue or the study aims. It would be helpful to explain briefly why certain research are mentioned and how they add to the debate.

3. The paragraph packs a lot of information and references into a single paragraph, making the reader feel overwhelmed. It would be easier to read if the content was broken down into smaller, more digestible sentences or paragraphs.

4. The paragraph lacks a clear thesis statement or main argument outlining what the study intends to investigate or discover. From the start, readers should have a clear idea of the study's goal.

5. The shift from analyzing the "native speaker fallacy" to challenges confronting non-native speakers is sudden. A smoother transition or transitional sentence could improve the paragraph's flow.

6. The phrase "teachers' emotions have a substantial impact on their students" is a little ambiguous and lacks precision. It would be helpful to explain how these emotions affect pupils and how they relate to the study's subject.

7. The words "notably" and "frequently confront bias" are fairly repetitive. The writing would be more concise if unneeded adverbs and adjectives were removed.

This paragraph's flaws revolve mostly around clarity, structure, and relevancy. The introduction would be more effective in explaining the study's aim and captivating the reader if the paragraph was revised to address these concerns and develop a clearer relationship to the study's major objectives.

For examples:

1. The transition from the preceding paragraph, which described biases experienced by non-native English teachers, is not clear and fluid. It immediately switches to debating the value of English education in Israel and Taiwan, with no logical

connection.

2. The paragraph is quite long, with numerous complicated ideas included inside a single sentence. This can make it difficult for readers to follow the essential ideas and stay engaged. It would be easier to read if the content was divided into smaller sentences or paragraphs.

3. There is some overlap between statements like "English is the predominant language of business and academia" and "English as a gateway to superior educational prospects." Such duplication can be removed to improve clarity and conciseness.

4. The paragraph mentions the significance of English in Israel and Taiwan, but does not immediately connect these points to the study's major subject of discrimination faced by non-native English teachers. It must develop a stronger link between the larger context and the study's objectives.

5. While citations are necessary to support arguments, this paragraph has multiple citations in rapid succession, which can disrupt the flow of the narrative. The paragraph's readability would improve if these references were integrated more easily and selectively.

6. The paragraph addresses the importance of English education in Israel and Taiwan, but it does not explicitly link these arguments to the study's basic thesis or research questions. It should clearly state why this background is significant to non-native English instructors' discrimination.

7. While the paragraph mentions the importance of English in Israel and Taiwan, it lacks particular instances or evidence to back up these claims. Providing real examples or facts could help to enhance the case.

The main flaws in this paragraph are vagueness, redundancy, and a lack of engagement. The introduction would be more effective in explaining the study's purpose and engaging the reader if the paragraph was revised to address these difficulties while also creating a clearer relationship between the study's components and its broader objectives.

For examples:

1. The paragraph mentions that the study will add to the literature, but it does not say how or what it would add. It should provide a more precise statement regarding the study's distinctive contribution or research gap.

2. The paragraph reiterates information from the introduction, such as evaluating relevant literature, describing research topics and methodology, and ending the study. This repetition can be cut to make the paragraph shorter.

3. While the paragraph defines the paper's broad format, it lacks a concise preview of what readers might expect in each part. A quick outline of what will be discussed in the next parts can assist readers in understanding the paper's arrangement and content flow.

4. The paragraph discusses the "advantages and disadvantages" of NESTs and NNESTs but does not elaborate on these benefits and drawbacks. Giving readers a little extra information or background might assist them comprehend the

significance of the next literature review.

5. The line indicates that research questions and methodology will be explored next, but there is no apparent connection between these aspects and the overarching purpose of understanding student opinions. It should provide a more apparent connection between these components and the study's aims.

6. The paragraph fails to engage the reader or deliver compelling information to keep their attention. It might use a more enticing conclusion line that alluded to the study's potential impact or relevance.

7. A strong introduction will often restate the main research question or thesis to tell the reader what the study is about. This paragraph doesn't have a sentence like that.

8. Phrases like "will be reviewed," "will be discussed," and "will conclude with a discussion" are somewhat generic and do not add much information. Using more specific language about what the review, discussion, and conclusion will entail could make the paragraph more informative.

For the literature review section, I suggest a revision to improve the readability of the article.

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