

DEVELOPING WRITING SKILL THROUGH GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

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Abstract To gain success in a language learning system, developing sufficient knowledge about four core language skills is very important. In the English language, there are listening, reading, writing and speaking skills. In its turn, they are divided into **productive** and **receptive** skills. One of the most abstract, difficultly succeeding skill is considered **writing**. From this point of view, the following research work focuses on developing writing through graphic organizers.

Key words: receptive and productive skills, writing ability, language skills, graphics, student-developed GOs, teacher-developed GOs, acquisition of language

Introduction

Graphic organizers play an essential role in the process of language acquisition. The graphics can be sub-divided into two big groups according to its creators. They are called student-developed and teacher-developed graphic organizers.¹

Graphic organizers are a useful tool for developing writing skills by helping students organize their thoughts and ideas before they begin writing. Graphic organizers can help students brainstorm ideas, outline their writing, and structure their thoughts in a visual way. There are multiple types of commonly used graphic organizer formats in general.²

¹ Laraib Rahat, Ghani Rahman, Shahabullah. Using Teacher- and Student-Developed Graphic Organizers as a Writing Tool, Journal of language and translation, Vol. 2, No.1, 2011

² Laraib Rahat, Ghani Rahman, Shahabullah. Impact of Graphic Organizers on Reading Comprehension of English Learners at Intermediate Level, Sir Syed Journal of Education & Social Research Vol. 3, Issue 3, 2020 (July – September)

1) Descriptive or Thematic Map as a graphic organizer; 2) Network tree as a graphic organizer; 3) Spider map as a graphic organizer; 4) Problem and solution map as a graphic organizer; 5) Problem-solution outline as a graphic organizer 6) Sequential episodic map as a graphic organizer; 7) Fishbone map as a graphic organizer; 8) Comparative and contrastive map as a graphic organizer; 9) The compare-contrast matrix as a graphic organizer; 10) Continuum scale as a graphic organizer; 11) Series of events chain as a graphic organizer; 12) Cycle map as a graphic organizer; 13) Human interaction outline as a graphic organizer; 14) Story map as a graphic organizer; 15) Semantic maps; 16) Diagram as a graphic organizer; 17) Venn diagram as a graphic organizer; 18) Character Map as a graphic organizer; 19) Brainstorm Web as a graphic organizer.

Literature review

Several scientific works have been carried out so far by many researchers from Uzbekistan and other foreign countries. To develop writing, some researchers find a particular kind of graphic organizers really useful, such as antonymic-synonymic GO³ in Uzbekistan. In another scientific work in Nigeria, the use of graphic organizers helped improve the performance of junior secondary school students in both public and private schools when learning creative writing. Additionally, both male and female students showed equal improvement when using graphic organizers in creative arts, demonstrating that this tool is effective for both genders. This study showed that incorporating technology such as graphic organizers into teaching methods can lead to enhanced performance in creative arts for students, regardless of their school type or gender.⁴

Methodology

One common graphic organizer is the brainstorming web, where students can jot down ideas related to a topic and then connect them with lines to show relationships

³ T.Ortiqova, O'qish kompetensiyasini oshirish uchun sinonimik-antonimik tahliliy jadval usulidan foydalanish, unpublished article.

⁴ Odewumi Michael, Amosa Isiaka, EFFICACY OF GRAPHIC ORGANIZER ON PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS' PERFORMANCE IN COGNITIVE WRITING SKILLS, International Journal of New Trends in Arts, Sports & Science Education - 2019, volume 8, issue 1.

between ideas. This can help students generate ideas and see how they all fit together before they start writing.

Another useful graphic organizer is the outline, where students can break down their writing into different sections or paragraphs. This can help students organize their thoughts and make sure they include all the necessary information in their writing.

Graphic organizers can also help students with narrative writing by providing a visual way to outline the plot, including the introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, and conclusion. This can help students see how the story develops over time and make sure they include all the necessary elements of a narrative.

Here mostly effective graphic organizers are given:

1. **Mind Maps:** Mind maps are a visual representation of ideas and connections between them. They can be useful for brainstorming ideas for writing topics, organizing main points, and illustrating relationships between different pieces of information.

2. **Storyboards:** Storyboards are commonly used in storytelling and can be effective for organizing the plot or structure of a narrative piece of writing. They consist of a sequence of panels that outline the key events in a story along with accompanying notes or descriptions.

3. **Flowcharts:** Flowcharts are diagrams that show the steps in a process or procedure. They can be helpful for organizing the flow of ideas in a writing piece, particularly for procedural or instructional writing.

4. **Venn Diagrams:** Venn diagrams can be used to compare and contrast different ideas, characters, or concepts. They can be useful for organizing the similarities and differences between different aspects of a writing topic.

5. **Concept Maps:** Concept maps are visual representations of relationships between ideas or concepts. They can help writers to see how different pieces of information are interconnected and can be useful for developing more complex and nuanced arguments in writing.

6. **Timeline:** Timelines are useful for organizing events in chronological order. They can be helpful for structuring narratives, historical writing, or any piece of writing that involves a sequence of events.

7. **Organizational Charts:** Organizational charts can be used to show hierarchical relationships or structures within a piece of writing. They can help writers to prioritize information, identify key points, and ensure that their writing is well-organized and easy to follow.

Discussion

The use of graphic organizers in developing writing skills has been a topic of much debate among educators. Some argue that graphic organizers can be incredibly beneficial in helping students organize their thoughts and ideas before they begin writing. By visually mapping out their thoughts, students can see the connections between different ideas and develop more cohesive and coherent writing.

On the other hand, some critics argue that relying too heavily on graphic organizers can stifle creativity and prevent students from developing their own unique writing style. They argue that students may become overly reliant on the structure provided by the graphic organizer, limiting their ability to think critically and independently.

However, proponents of graphic organizers argue that they can be used effectively as a tool to guide, rather than limit, the writing process. By providing students with a visual framework for their writing, graphic organizers can help students stay focused and organized, leading to more polished and well-developed writing.

Ultimately, the effectiveness of graphic organizers in developing writing skills may depend on how they are implemented in the classroom. When used as a supplement to traditional writing instruction, graphic organizers can be a valuable tool for students to use in planning and organizing their writing. However, it is important for educators to encourage students to also think critically and creatively, and not rely solely on the structure provided by the graphic organizer. With a balanced approach, graphic organizers can be a useful tool in helping students develop their writing skills.

Conclusion

Overall, the use of graphic organizers has proven to be an effective tool in developing writing skills. By providing a visual representation of the writing process, graphic organizers can help students organize their thoughts, structure their writing, and improve overall coherence and clarity in their compositions.

Furthermore, the use of graphic organizers can help students engage in prewriting activities, such as brainstorming and outlining, which can contribute to the success of their final written pieces. Students are able to see the connections between their ideas and how they can be integrated into a well-developed piece of writing. Additionally, graphic organizers can serve as a valuable resource for students who struggle with organization and time management. By breaking down the writing process into manageable steps, students can better plan and execute their writing assignments, leading to improved overall writing skills.

Overall, the use of graphic organizers provides students with a structured and visual approach to the writing process, leading to improved organization, coherence, and overall writing quality. As such, incorporating graphic organizers into writing instruction can be a highly effective strategy for developing students' writing skills.

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