LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN STORY-BASED EFL PRIMARY

CLASSROOMS: AN EVALUATIVE MULTIPLE CASE STUDY DESIGN

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ABSTRACT

This study evaluated the innovative introduction of a story-based approach in

EFL classrooms in southern Taiwan. It aimed to understand what learning

opportunities the story-based approach can afford through detailed analyses of

teacher-pupil interaction in a teacher-fronted classroom setting together with a

consideration of participants' viewpoints.

This study employed a multiple case study design. Data were gathered by

means of classroom observation and interviews. The recorded lessons were

transcribed and analyzed according to the Conversation Analysis approach combined

with Cameron's (2001) task framework. In addition, baseline data (the standard

lessons) were provided for comparisons.

As an in-depth investigation of this innovation in Taiwan by multi-level

qualitative analyses of classroom interaction supplemented with interview data, this

study contributed to our knowledge of what goes on inside the story-based EFL

classrooms, raised the issues of the classroom implementation of the story-based

approach, and provided implications for pedagogy in this EFL context.