

## **Students Language Development – Writing**

Writing is one of the four basic language skills<sup>1</sup>. To be more specific, it is one of the two productive skills which are, however, not in favour among majority of students. The fact that students do not like writing should become the motivating factor for teachers to create such activities that would be enjoyable, helpful and efficient at the same time.

There exist a number of types of writing that has to be taught and learnt. These are, for example, a biography, a leaflet, an advertisement, essays, a film/ book review, formal and informal letters, an article summary, cover letters, etc.

One of the most important factors in teaching / learning writing skills is that students need to be personally involved, they need to know the reason for which it is necessary to practise the particular writing style. The logical consequence of the previously mentioned factor is that the teacher has to be clear on what skills the students are about to practise and how exactly this skill can be used in real life situations. Once the teacher has defined the aim of the lesson, he can then proceed to the particular means of how to achieve the required/ desired results. Choosing the appropriate exercise is then fundamental for efficient teaching.

On one hand we talk about writing styles here but on the other hand it is necessary to realize that many students have significant problems with writing correct english sentences at all. Therefore teachers have to start with practising simple steps such as – „put the words in the correct order“, “change the pronoun *He* for the pronoun *We*“, analyse the subject, verb and object“, etc. After students had managed to form a correct english sentence, teachers can teach them to use appropriate linkers and then, finally, students can be taught to use appropriate words and phrases used for the particular writing style.

Although it may seem restrictive to force students to use “the given phrases“, it is, in fact, very helpful and efficient as the students are usually not able to come up with even the simplest thoughts or phrases themselves. The logical consequence of this is that students have to be taught and teachers have to teach them as Komensky said : “.. from the simplest to more complicated...“.

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<sup>1</sup> FOUR BASIC LANGUAGE SKILLS = speaking, writing ( productive skills); reading, listening ( receptive skills)