Developing writing as a key communication skill

Abstract

The thesis focuses on the development of writing, with special emphasis being put on the mandatory written essay that is required as a part of the foreign language maturita exam. The opening chapters introduce the definition of writing skill and theoretically propose ways to improve and develop the skill, as well as examine the factors that influence its quality. Further methods and approaches centered on writing are suggested to be utilised in lessons. Furthermore, RWCT methods along with creative writing techniques are presented. These particular methods are observed in the research following two control groups of students and their writing skills development. The aim was to juxtapose and compare the groups in question, with one of the groups being subjected to alternative methods. It also aims to analyse a textbook in terms of featured exercises in regards to the writing skill development. A presentation of suitable activities that could be used in classes to improve the quality of writing is an essential part of the thesis, as well as the examination of related curricular documents in the Czech educational system, especially concerning the maturita exam.

Keywords: communication skills, writing as a productive skill, German language writing training, creative writing, essay, RWCT techniques, practice, textbook, maturita exam, evaluation criteria