

Peer Assessment and its Effect on Students' Motivation

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Abstract. Assessment plays an important role in the process of education. Moreover, it is very important to use the correct form of assessment because it could affect students' motivation. Therefore, teachers should always be very careful when they assess students. Often students are able to assess their classmates. However, it is very important to test the effect of peer assessment because it could affect the students' motivation; especially shy students, who are often very sensitive. The aim of the study is to assess the effect of peer assessment on students' motivation. Furthermore, it will show the students' reaction about the use of peer assessment in the classroom. To achieve this aim a case study took place in the primary school Nuri Mazari. Participants of this study will be Albanian students who learn English as a foreign language. An instrument for this study was the teachers' observation sheet, which was used to take notes about the students' reaction when the teacher told them that they will have to assess their classmates. The teacher classifies students into groups as very motivated students, less motivated students and students who are not motivated at all. This classification was done at the beginning of the study to examine the effect of peer assessment in these three groups of students. The teacher prepared special peer assessment sheets with rubrics appropriate for the study. Students also had to fill in a simple questionnaire, which contained two questions; one question was about the students' impressions that they had to assess their classmates and the impressions that they had to be assessed by their classmates. The results of the study give a clear picture of the effect of peer assessment on students' motivation, which is a very important factor in the students' success.