

# The Effect of Meta pragmatic Instructions on the Interpretation and Use of Apology Speech Acts of English as a Foreign Language Learner (EFL) at Intermediate Level

By

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## Abstract

*This study dealt with the application of the pragmatics research to EFL teaching. The study explored the effect of explicit metapragmatic instructions on the interpretation and use of apology speech acts of intermediate EFL students. The speech act of apologizing was selected as the focus of teaching. Teacher-fronted discussions, cooperative grouping, role plays, and other pragmatically oriented tasks were used to promote the learning of speech acts. A total number of 60 Iranian students based on OPT (Oxford Placement Test) test were selected for this study. Discourse Completion Test and Multiple Choice Questionnaire were developed as a pretest and posttest to measure the effects of instruction on the pragmatic awareness of the students. The results of the data analysis revealed that students' interpretation and use of speech acts improved significantly.*

**Keywords:** sociolinguistics, pragmatics, metapragmatics, speech acts, apology