

Opportunities and challenges of teaching English as a foreign language in Iran

Reza Kheirabadi*

Assistant Professor, foreign languages department,
Organization for Educational Research and Planning (OERP),
Tehran, Iran

Seyyed Behnam Alavi Moghaddam**

Associate Professor, foreign languages department,
Organization for Educational Research and Planning (OERP),
Tehran, Iran

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This study aims to demarcate the main opportunities and challenges of teaching English as a foreign language in formal education system of Iran. Coming to this end, challenges and pitfalls of English teaching in Iran has been enumerated by means of metaanalysing the most recent researches done in current decade and consequently relevant solutions to these shortcomings have been suggested through semistructured interview sessions with a group of experts. The findings show that traditional approach to teaching English, insufficiency of textbooks and supplementary materials, shortcomings of teacher training courses and lack of qualified and motivated teachers, ambiguity of policy making, lack of instruction time in schools and formal education system are amongst the most critical challenges of teaching English in Iran. To bridge the gaps, some suggestions have been posed by the researchers based on meta-level cultural and educational documents.

Keywords: Teaching English As A Foreign Language, Opportunities And Challenges, Metaanalysis, The National Curriculum, Formal Education System.

* E-mail: rkheirabadi@gmail.com; (Responsible Author)

** E-mail: behnamalavim@gmail.com