

Clare Penzer – Assignment 1C

A critical examination as to what extent self assessment of unseen translation of Latin enhances pupil's performance in a year 13 class in a girl's grammar school.

Abstract

The aim of my research is to see what extent self assessment enhances a pupil's performance in unseen translation of Latin. I decided to look specifically at self-assessment as it is not always used as frequently as other forms of assessment in every day school lessons (in my school). I also looked at whether high-achieving pupils underestimated their marks, which research has found.

The school is an all girls selective grammar school.

The process consisted of setting each Latin unseen for homework, followed by the pupils marking it the next lesson. I gave them all a mark scheme (from OCR) and a full translation of each passage. This was repeated three times.

I used transcripts to form part of my data, writing down everything that was said in each lesson. Therefore they had to voice everything they were thinking, which at first they were quite reluctant to do but their confidence grew as the task progressed. I also collected the marks they had given themselves and compared them with my marks to see if my results supported other researchers' results. Finally I asked them all to fill out a questionnaire on their thoughts and feelings of the experience.

My results supported the fact that high achieving pupils underestimate their performance; however it did not produce conclusive evidence to suggest that it enhanced their performance from one unseen to the next. The pupils did state in their questionnaire that they found it useful to see how marks were allocated and also seeing how others marked their work.