

An Investigation of the Effects of Group Work Dynamics on Iranian Male and Female EFL Learners' Motivation in Communicative Tasks


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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Please more clearly articulate the research gap. While the introduction emphasizes the importance of motivation and group work, it lacks a direct statement about the specific gap in literature regarding Iranian EFL learners and gender-based motivational responses in GWD contexts.

Elaborate more precisely how DST was operationalized in your research design. Currently, the application of DST remains conceptual, not empirical.

Elaborate on the thematic coding process. What coding framework or software was used, and how were themes validated?

The use of "fighting" is problematic in academic writing. Consider revising this to "striving for leadership roles" or "assertive behavior."

Provide the interview protocol or a summary of key questions asked, especially those addressing motivational change.

Include statistical significance results alongside descriptive statistics here for clarity. Readers need to know whether this difference is statistically meaningful.

Report effect sizes (e.g., Cohen's d) for both the control and experimental groups to complement p-values and provide insight into the magnitude of effects.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. *Reviewer 2*

Reviewer:

This paragraph digresses into a discussion on ICTs, which are not part of your experimental intervention. Consider removing or tightly integrating it with the study's focus.

The summary lacks a clear statement of the study's hypotheses. Please specify them explicitly here to guide the reader.

Revise "considered of" to "consisted of." This grammatical error affects readability and professionalism.

Please state whether ethical approval was obtained from an institutional review board, and include an approval number if applicable.

It's commendable that you corrected your initial interpretation. Still, please cite an appropriate source or methodology guideline on using ANOVA for between-group comparisons in quasi-experimental designs.

While persuasive, this claim would be stronger if supported by interview excerpts or observational quotes directly illustrating these motivational catalysts.

Specify which task types (e.g., comic strip storytelling, information gap) were most effective, based on participant feedback or performance differences.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. **Revised**

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.