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Applied Linguistics and Language Teaching: A Critical Review of Concepts and Trends

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Abstract

This study explores Applied Linguistics as a multidisciplinary field of knowledge that plays a vital role in developing language education both theoretically and practically. This linguistic orientation has become a focal point for contemporary researchers, especially given its expanding scope and openness to various academic disciplines.

The importance of the topic stems from the deep and reciprocal connection between linguistic studies and language teaching, particularly in light of the rapid advancements in this field. These developments are largely due to its interaction with cognitive science, memory theories, motivation studies, and its recognition of the crucial role played by social and cultural contexts in shaping communicative practices.

The interdisciplinary nature of applied linguistics is evident in its engagement with a variety of domains, including rhetoric, psycholinguistics, sociolinguistics, education, technology, and communication studies. In this context, the present research aims to provide a thorough analytical reading of the core concepts of this field, trace its historical development, and examine the major theoretical trends that have influenced language teaching methodologies and strategies. Furthermore, the study sheds light on central issues within applied linguistics, such as error analysis, learning difficulties, language planning, the use of digital media, and the integration of artificial intelligence in language learning and teaching.

This research adopts a descriptive-analytical approach based on an extensive review of specialized literature in both Arabic and English. Its goal is to identify research gaps and offer forward-looking insights that can contribute to the advancement of the field and enhance the effectiveness of teaching and learning processes. The findings of this study are expected to benefit a wide range of stakeholders in the educational and linguistic fields, including language teachers, curriculum developers, and researchers in linguistics and education.

Keywords: Applied Linguistics; Language Education; Error Analysis; Language Planning; Artificial Intelligence