

**WHAT MAKES SECOND YEAR STUDENTS OF MEDICINE
DISREGARD THE ENGLISH CLASSES?
A CASE STUDY AT THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, JAZAN UNIVERSITY,
KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**

Abbar Ghalem

MA English language Lecturer
Jazan University, College of Medicine
KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
abbar.ghalem1967@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Teaching English for Medical Purposes (EMP) is an approach which provides opportunities to students of medicine to acquire English naturally, by working with language in a context that they comprehend and find interesting. This course is usually delivered through the use of some selected textbooks, which constitute the most visible parts of EMP teaching program. They serve as the basis for much of the language input second year students of medicine receive and the language practice that takes place in the classroom. This study intends to highlight the causes behind students' reluctance to attend the EMP course. A classroom observation checklist was adopted for the purpose to explore second year students' attitudes and behaviours during the formal class sessions. It was found that second year students of medicine were not really motivated to attend the English class. Their attitudes toward the English class are very alarming. This study comes to the conclusion that the assigned course textbooks for teaching EMP to second year students of medicine decrease students' motivation for learning. Students show more interest when they find the materials real, authentic and new. They may learn more and at a faster rate when they are stimulated enough.

Keywords: EMP (English for Medical Purposes), ESP (English for Specific Purposes), Course textbooks, motivation, attitudes.