

EMPLOYING FOCUS GROUPS TO INVESTIGATE PROBLEM-BASED LANGUAGE TEACHING: A PILOT STUDY

IS-1

Miklós Attila Wind, Ágnes Albert

Eötvös Loránd University, School of English and American Studies

Keywords: focus group; problem-based language

Focus groups are a method of enquiry employed by social and behavioral researchers to understand opinions, attitudes, motivations, and thought processes (Krueger & Casey, 2015; Stewart & Shamdasani, 2015). In this talk, we would like to present the process of compiling a focus group guide and conducting a sequence of three focus group interviews with English as a foreign language (EFL) teachers in Hungary. The participants of the three focus groups were recruited from a prestigious secondary school in Budapest and from an elementary school from northern Hungary. We aim to shed light on the process of piloting with the help of Krueger and Casey's (2015) parameters and also report the results of three focus groups. Based on our results, the focus groups method seemed suitable for exploring the opinions and attitudes of Hungarian EFL teachers. In addition, this study also showed that focus groups worked efficiently even with two participants.

This work was supported by Hungarian Academy of Sciences Research Programme for Public Education Development.