



UNIVERSIDAD JUÁREZ  
AUTÓNOMA DE TABASCO

“ESTUDIO EN LA DUDA. ACCIÓN EN LA FE”

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# Artículos Científicos

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**First and target language use in public language education for young learners: Longitudinal evidence from Mexican secondary-school classrooms**

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**ABSTRACT**

Reforms in public education favour the introduction of English as a foreign language at a young age. These reforms aim to help young learners achieve a high level of communicative performance in English by the end of public education. In language classrooms, the meaning-oriented use of English in teacher discourse can potentially facilitate language production and comprehension among learners and thereby provide language acquisition opportunities. This quantitative, descriptive study examined the use of English and Spanish in teacher discourse in terms of amount and purpose in Mexican secondary-school classrooms, where learners were completing the last language learning cycle in the national curriculum. Over two months, 45 h of regular classroom instruction were video-recorded in nine schools across five geographical areas of Southeast Mexico for analysis. The results indicate that teacher L1 overreliance and a lack of communicative purpose for the use of the L2 constitute shared and systematic features of public language pedagogy for young learners in the observed classrooms. These results are congruent with those from other international contexts and raise concerns about the effectiveness of language teaching to help young learners become competent users of English through public education

**Keywords:** English foreign language; Foreign language pedagogy; Language policy and planning; Teacher education



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**Integration Centers: A Territorial Planning  
Experience in the State of Tabasco**

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**ABSTRACT**

In this article, the authors assert the need to research territorial integration at the micro-regional level, due to the fact that the biodiversity is so varied between each of the micro-regions in Mexico, not only in terms of natural resources, but also in terms of human resources. This has always constituted a major obstacle for regional integration, in spite of the multiple efforts made through numerous programs, which have failed for a variety of reasons, a principal one of which has been their lack of continuity.

Keywords: Geographic spaces; Integration centers; Micro-regions; Regional integration;  
Territorial planning



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