

**A STUDY OF THAI STUDENTS WORKING
IN ASYMMETRICAL PAIRS IN AN ENGLISH CLASSROOM**

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ABSTRACT

This work accounts for a study, in which Thai students at an international college were working in asymmetrical pairs, i.e. pairs composed by students on different levels of achievement. The study was aimed at finding an answer to the research question of whether working in asymmetrical pairs led to a larger or smaller improvement, on a final grammar test, than the improvement of the rest of the students in the class, who were working individually, and thus formed control groups for the study.

The result was that the students in fifteen out of twenty asymmetrical pairs improved their results more than the five control groups. The answer to the research question is therefore that working in asymmetrical pairs led to better results on the final grammar test, than working individually. Moreover, the students with the lowest results on the initial grammar test were those who improved their results the most, which could possibly be explained by a better room for improvement.

Key Words: asymmetrical pairs, peer teaching, asymmetrical pairs, second language acquisition, socio-cultural theories.