

CHALLENGE FACED BY ENGLISH TEACHER TO TEACH STUDENT WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: A SURVEY STUDY

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Abstrak

Inclusive education has become an integral part of educational systems worldwide, promoting the integration of students with special needs into mainstream classrooms. English language education, as a fundamental component of the curriculum, is not exempt from this paradigm shift. This survey study delves into the challenges encountered by English teachers when instructing students with special needs in elementary schools.

The research employed a structured questionnaire administered to a diverse sample of elementary school English teachers. The survey instrument aimed to identify the multifaceted challenges faced by educators in catering to the unique requirements of students with special needs during English language instruction.

Findings from the survey revealed a spectrum of challenges. First, teachers reported difficulties in adapting teaching materials and methods to suit the varied learning styles and needs of their special needs students. Second, classroom management posed significant challenges due to the diverse behavioral and cognitive characteristics of students with special needs. Third, the lack of specialized training and professional development opportunities hindered teachers' ability to effectively address these challenges.

Moreover, the study highlights the importance of support systems, including collaboration with special education professionals, in mitigating the identified challenges. Recommendations for enhancing teacher preparation programs and school support

structures are discussed to foster a more inclusive and effective English language education environment.

This research contributes valuable insights to the field of inclusive education and serves as a resource for educators, policymakers, and stakeholders striving to ensure equitable educational opportunities for all students, including those with special needs.

Keywords: *English Teacher, Special Needs Students, Elementary School, Challenges*

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