

## DEVELOPING THE TECHNICAL WRITING SKILLS OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNERS – AN ECLECTIC APPROACH

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### ABSTRACT

The present study is the implementation of an eclectic approach – a combination of the product and the process approach to improve the written competence of professional learners by integrating some of the cognitive elements of the product approach into the process approach for the effective acquisition of the writing skill.

As the given context is that of ESP, a need based study was conducted to examine the difficulties of the learners in writing, the methodology adopted by the teachers at school level, etc. The paper discusses the features of the eclectic approach and the efficacy of the approach is proved by conducting an experimental study on a group of professional learners at first year engineering level. The study proved beyond doubt that the approach had motivated them to produce better pieces of writing. The paper concludes with the contention that the language teachers should provide opportunities to the learners by designing suitable tasks thereby giving lot of practice and also guidance during the three phases of writing.

**KEYWORDS:** Product Approach, Process Approach, Tasks, Coherent Paragraph, Cohesive Devices, Rhetorical Functions