

## **ABSTRACT**

The present study aimed to investigate the extent to which Arabic was used in the primary English classroom, the attitudes of teachers and students toward using Arabic and their reasons behind using it. It also aimed at exploring which gender used Arabic more in the EFL . In addition, it tried to present the relationship between the use of Arabic and the two factors which might affect using Arabic, i.e., years of English teaching experience and students' level of English proficiency.

The results of the study which were collected through a questionnaire, classroom observations and interviews indicated that Arabic was sometimes used in the primary English classrooms by both teachers and students. It also indicated that there were no significant differences in using Arabic in the primary EFL classroom due to gender and English teaching experience. However, significant differences in using Arabic were found between students who had a low level of proficiency in English and those who had an intermediate or advanced level. Moreover, the findings indicated that more Arabic was used by the teachers and the students for translating abstract words and terminologies.