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ARCHIVES ANNOUNCEMENTS RECRUITMENT SUBMISSIONS
EDITORIAL TEAM FOCUS AND SCOPE CONTACT INDEX OTHER
JOURNALS PUBLISHER

Home > Vol 4, No 2 (2011) > **Rass**

Cultural Transfer as an Obstacle for Writing Well in English: The Case of Arabic Speakers Writing in English

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Abstract

This paper reviews and strengthens the data on cultural transfer by Arab Muslim students writing in English and adds the significant element of the cultural impact of Islam on such writing. This qualitative study examines the writing of 18 teacher trainees at an Arab language teacher training college in Israel. Results point to a strong cultural influence appearing in the students' writing. It is suggested that greater consideration should be given to the first and the target culture when designing the curricula for writing classes for Arab L1 students in English writing instruction.

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