

- INTRODUCTION:

Literature, either poetry or prose, plays an important role developing the students' literary appreciation and aesthetical realization. As a result, the appreciation of a literary text is the ultimate objective of teaching literature. Because of this importance of literary appreciation, the ministry of education pays much attention towards it and considered it the main aim of teaching Arabic language in our schools in general and literature in particular.

The teacher of Arabic language is responsible for developing the students' literary appreciation inside and outside the classroom. He should train them to analyze, interpret and taste the literary texts so that they may feel its importance and its link to the real life situations. He also should train them how to think and the method of criticism and interpretation, leading to their love and tendency to taste literature.

In reality, the review of literature has showed that the level of the student's literary appreciation is low. The possible reasons for this are the teacher and his teaching techniques on one hand, and the student and his learning styles on the other. Another possible reason is the current system of school evaluation. Finally, the textbook itself may be a reason.

- RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

The problem of the present study is the educational need to identify the skills of literary appreciation in prose among the Arabic language section students in the faculties of education and to determine its availability. This problem can be tackled through the answer of the following the questions:

- 1- What are the literary appreciation skills in prose necessary for the Arabic language sections in faculties of education?
- 2- What is the students' level in these skills?
- 3- What is the suggested perspective for developing these skills?

- RESEARCH DELIMITATIONS :

The present study will be limited to the following points:

- 1- The sample of the study consists of students in the fourth year, the Arabic language section in some faculties of education. That is because it is the final year and it is the cumulative output of all the university years where they studied 11 courses aiming at teaching the literary appreciation.
- 2- Some literary arts such as the short stories, essay and article, because they include most of the literary appreciation skills in prose.

- RESEARCH PROCEDURES :

First: Identification of the literary appreciation skills in prose necessary for the students of Arabic language section in the faculties of education through the following steps:

- 1- Reviewing the literature related to literature in general and literary appreciation in particular as well as the nature of prose.
- 2- Preparing a questionnaire to the experts in the field of teaching Arabic on the skills necessary for the students of the Arabic language section in the faculties of education.
- 3- Preparing a list of the literary appreciation skills in prose.

4- Judging the validity of this list by the experts in the field.

Second: Determination of the students' level in these skills through the following steps:

- 1- Preparing a scale of literary appreciation in prose, as mentioned above, and judging its validity and reliability.
- 2- Selecting a random sample from the fourth year students at some faculties of education.
- 3- Administering the scale to the sample.

Third: Interpreting the data statistically.

Fourth: Analysis, discussion and interpreting the results.

Fifth: Suggestions and recommendations for further research.

- RESEARCH FINDINGS :

- 1- The level of Arabic language section students' skills was weak under the first dimension "the intellectual content of the literary work" when t-test value was 37.86, which is very low and indicates the students' weakness.
- 2- Again, the same finding of the students' weakness was revealed under the second dimension "style" when t-test was 8.73.
- 3- There was a weakness in the students' skills under the third dimension "the short story", when t-test value was 22.91, which is very low.
- 4- There was a weakness in the students' skills under the fourth dimension "essay", when t-test value was 18.09, which is very low.
- 5- There was a general conclusion, that is, the Arabic language students' weakness in literary appreciation in the prose, when t-test was 35.66, which is very low.

- RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1- There is an urgent need for paying more attention to the prose and using the methods and strategies for teaching the prose aiming at developing those skills.
- 2- There should be integration between the literature, criticism and rhetoric courses. That is because the appreciation is the product of them altogether.
- 3- There should be an interest of the integration between the cognitive, aesthetic, emotional and social aspects when studying the literary text, because they are the essential components of literary appreciation.
- 4- The instructors of literature, criticism and rhetoric courses should be use the recent teaching methods such as: the cooperative learning, the direct instruction, the use of computers in teaching the literary text. That is because many studies confirmed that.
- 5- A new course entitled "Literary Appreciation of Prose" should be introduced in the Arabic language section.
- 6- There should be a unification of courses in all Egyptian faculties of education.
- 7- Training courses should be held for Arabic language teachers in order to develop their literary appreciation.
