The Need for the Study

- Students’ boredom
- The results of an informal interview: They feel uncomfortable.

Students’ Feelings about Listening

In my exams, when it is time to do listening part, I want to sleep and never wake up 😴

I feel unsafe and anxious while doing listening tasks 😞

Why cooperative learning? Because it generates:

- Face-to-Face interaction
- Individual Accountability
- Interpersonal and Small Group Skills
- Group Processing
- Positive Interdependence

The Procedure

Research question: How does “Cooperative Learning” technique affect my students’ attitudes towards listening?

Participants: 19 Engineering Students (F = 10, M = 9)
- 6 groups in line with the principles of “Cooperative Learning”. In each group, there were one weak, one average and one strong student.
- I adapted the materials in the course book and made them appropriate for group work.

Data Collection Tools:
- Open-ended questions,
- An attitude scale on listening and cooperative learning (Tubail, 2015),
- An informal interview.

Findings

Importance of Listening

Enjoying Listening

Conclusion

- In this study, almost all of my students gave positive feedback on the usage of cooperative learning method in listening classes. Both the attitude scale and the informal interview reveal that my students’ feelings and attitudes towards listening changed in a very positive way.
- They stressed that they all found it enjoyable and felt themselves not only self-confident but also motivated.

My Reflections

- After implementing this method to my class, I observed that the participation to listening tasks increased and my students became more active learners of English.
- They focused on the tasks more easily when they worked in groups.
- Our class dynamics improved, both me and my students had more fun during our lessons and they seem to enjoy in my lessons. Thus, this made me more motivated and enthusiastic.
- They were less anxious but more curious about the following lessons. When they saw me in the corridors, they were asking about the upcoming lessons’ tasks or activities.
- As a teacher, doing an action research with my class raised my interest to new methods, gave me courage to do more for my students and made me feel more energetic about my job.

A Sample Implementation

Topic: Manners

Pre-Listening: Students watched a video on manners from different countries. With their group members, they discussed good manners and bad manners according to Turkish culture. Then they made a whole class discussion.

While-listening: In their course book, there is a true/false activity related to a listening text on a conversation between a couple from different countries. I adapted the material and they shared the new task among their team.

Post-listening: They played “Running dictation”. In this game, there is a runner, a writer and a checker. I stick some papers to the walls, on these papers different quotes were written and students are supposed to write them down. After finishing writing the sentence, checker looked at it and checked it. It went on like this. At the end, the group members who made the least mistake won the game and called as “Champions of Running Dictation.”

Reference: