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ANALYZING OF THE DATA SOURCES CONCERNING 21ST CENTURY SKILLS THAT EFL LEARNERS ARE REQUIRED TO POSSES

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to compose a list of the skills defined as " 21^{st} Century Skills" by the data sources emphasizing the skills that learners of English as a foreign language (EFL) are expected to have in 21^{st} century. The study was prepared within the scope of quantitative research model and designed as a case study. Gathered by reviewing the literature, the printed and electronic sources pointing out 21^{st} century skills expected from the learners within the frame of changing paradigms on learning EFL constituted the participants of this study. The documents were analyzed using descriptive analysis.

At the end of the study, a list of skills consisting of 7 dimensions as "cultural and intercultural skills, skills related to target language, literacy skills, personal skills, thinking skills, global skills and interpersonal skills" and 38 sub-skills were acquired making use of 9 data sources. It is determined that intercultural awareness is emphasized most in "cultural skills" dimension and listening and speaking skills are mostly stressed in "skills related to target language" dimension. Furthermore, it is specified that technological literacy is highlighted in literacy dimension and problem solving skills are the most emphasized skills in "thinking skills" dimension. While multilingualism is found as the most highlighted skill in "global skills" dimension, in interpersonal skills dimension, communication and cooperation skills are determined as the most emphasized skills.

Keywords: 21st Century Skills, foreign language skills, quantitative research, descriptive statistics.