Prospective English Teachers’ Teaching Practices in Primary Education

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ABSTRACT The aim of this paper is to determine the opinions of prospective English teachers related to their teaching practices and observations in primary education about English language teaching. In this study, a qualitative research method was used. The study group consisted of 30 prospective teachers attending the “English Teaching Certificate Program” and taking a “Teaching Practice” course at a state university in Ankara. To collect data, semi-structured interviews were used in focus group discussions made up of 6-7 students. These semi-structured interviews included two dimensions: one to understand the observations and experiences of prospective teachers, and one to determine the opinions of prospective teachers about teaching English in primary education. The data obtained via the interviews were analyzed through descriptive analysis. As a result, prospective teachers generally stated positive views on teaching practices and made some suggestions regarding the improvement of the quality of teaching.