**Abstract Title**

**Developing Critical Thinking Skills in Listening Comprehension: An Analysis of the EAP Context**

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**Abstract**

Listening has gained notable significance in any English teaching program, including English for academic purposes, in a way that no one would deny the fact that skillful dealing with listening comprehension will lead to academic success (Jeon, 2007). The present study was an attempt to investigate the effect of presenting critical thinking skills on EAP learners' listening comprehension skills. To fulfill this goal, a group of 50 university students studying medicine at a state university in Tehran participated in a 10-week treatment program. They were all sitting in classes of specialized English, based on the placement test they had all taken before the course. Prior to the treatment, they all sat for an academic listening pre-test of 25 questions, which had been piloted by a number of 50 students of the same character beforehand. The treatment included providing the participants with handouts of critical thinking skills each session. In the end, the same test was used as the listening post-test. The means of two tests were compared using paired samples t-test. The results suggested that teaching critical thinking skills has significantly affected learners' performance in academic listening.

**Keywords:** *Critial thinking, Listening comprehension, EFL learners*