



## **ENGLISH PROFICIENCY OF THE NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY TEACHING FORCE**

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The purposes of the study were to determine the level of proficiency in the English language of the Northwestern University faculty members, to identify the strengths and weaknesses in their command of the language, to propose appropriate activities to enhance their proficiency, and to organize intervention measures into a series of in-house in-service trainings. The descriptive research method was used in the study. There were 215 faculty members of NWU who took the 160-item English Proficiency Test during the school year 2008-2009. The test was divided into 10 categories: spelling, maze, cloze test, vocabulary and sentence completion, identifying errors, editing, homonyms, poetry analysis, reading comprehension, and essay test. Greater Majority of the faculty exhibited FAIR PROFICIENCY in spelling, comprehension, and intellectual understanding of the mechanics of grammar and correct usage, reading comprehension, and poetry analysis. GOOD PROFICIENCY was attained along vocabulary and sentence construction, structural knowledge, identifying errors, editing errors, and essay test. Overall scores showed FAIR PROFICIENCY in the English language.

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