

**Table 1** Characteristics of the participating students at the Arabian Gulf University and their exposure to English

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>No. (%)</b>
<b>Sex (n = 93)</b>	
Male	37 (40)
Female	56 (60)
<b>Teaching materials during school education were mainly in (n = 99):</b>	
Arabic	80 (81)
English	19 (19)
<b>I did a foundation year at the Arabian Gulf University (n = 99):</b>	
Yes	22 (22)
No	77 (78)
<b>Nationality (n = 97)</b>	
Saudi Arabia	35 (36)
Kuwait	31 (32)
Bahrain	29 (30)
Oman	2 (2)
United Arab Emirates	0 (0)
Qatar	0 (0)