

The Correlations of Onset Age to Taiwanese Junior High EFL Learners' Listening and Reading Abilities

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Abstract

This study aimed to investigate the correlations of onset age of learning English to Taiwanese junior high EFL learners' listening and reading proficiencies. A total of 458 students recruited from a public junior high school in New Taipei City participated in this study. The participants were all asked to fill in a questionnaire and take GEPT tests in listening and reading. The collected data were then analyzed by using Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficients. The results of this study showed that there was a significant correlation of the participants' ages of first exposure to formal English instruction to their listening test scores ($r=-.133, p<.01$). However, no significant correlation was found between the age factor and the learners' reading test scores ($r=-.043, p>.05$). The findings suggested that onset age played a role in the listening area of foreign language acquisition but not in the reading area.

Keywords: CPH, onset age, age factor, listening, reading