Investigating EFL Omani Learners’ Ability to Produce English Phonics in taught words and in untaught words

Salma Al-Humaidi
Sultan Qaboos University, Oman

Jasim Al-Belushi
Ministry of Education, Oman

Abstract
The aim of this study is to investigate EFL Omani Grade Two Learners’ Ability to produce the (43) sounds which are taught in grades one and two course books. It focuses on answering the following question: Are there any significant differences between grade two learners' ability to produce phonics in taught words and in untaught words? The study sample consisted of second grade learners in Al-Batinah North Governorate in the academic year 2010/2011. They were 100 learners. To answer the research questions, a reading test to measure learners’ ability to produce phonics was used. The Major finding of the present study was: There is a significant difference between grade two learners' ability to produce phonics in taught words and phonics in untaught words in favor phonics in taught words.

Key words: Grapheme, Phoneme, Phonics, Sound clusters