

Abstract

This study investigated the effectiveness of teaching the script-sound-regularity of Chinese characters in enhancing the reading ability of Chinese dyslexics and examined the different reading patterns of Chinese dyslexic and average readers in reading regular and irregular characters with high and low frequency. Thirty Chinese dyslexic primary students were divided equally in number into training group and control group. The former received a five-day intensive training on the use of the phonetic component to facilitate reading with a tailor-made computer software. There were statistically significant improvement for the training group in the post-training reading tasks but not for the control group. The results also revealed that dyslexic readers read the high frequency as poorly as low frequency in irregular characters while the average readers did not show this pattern. Hence, phonetic strategy should be included in future dyslexic remedial programs.