

Abstract

Some previous studies had shown that with adequate inter-letter spacing, children with and without dyslexia may have better reading performance due to alleviation of visual crowding. The replication of results was inconsistent across different alphabetic languages and such area was comparatively new in the morphosyllabic traditional Chinese.

This study investigated the reading fluency (speed and accuracy) of 36 dyslexic and 21 typically reading children from Hong Kong (9.67–13.25 years old) in normal and expanded spacing conditions (under different luminance) with paragraph reading tests.

Paired sample t-tests and GLMs were conducted in the analyses with different groups and conditions. Inter-character spacing had no effect on improving the reading fluency among dyslexic and typically reading children. These results do not support the claim that the difference in reading fluency between two spacing conditions is larger among dyslexic readers than in typical readers due to more severe crowding being alleviated among dyslexic readers.