

Story Comprehension, Recall and Generation in the Hearing Impaired

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The current study was carried out to compare the story comprehension, recall and generation abilities of hearing impaired and their normal peers.

Two groups of 15 subjects each were selected within the age range of 8-11 years which was further divided into three groups of one year interval.

The study used three tasks that of story comprehension, recall and generation. Single sessions were used with every child. Not more than 30 minutes were taken up by any child. Their responses were transcribed verbatim as well as audio recorded as far as possible.

Analysis was done in terms of qualitative as well as quantitative differences. The test and comparison group showed significant differences in performances for all the three tasks (at 0.05 level). Descriptive data provided a detailed picture of each age group's performance in term of story grammar elements. Definite qualitative difference exists between performance of 8-9 year and 10-11 year old in normals and the hearing-impaired.

Implications : Since, analysis has revealed a basic awareness of story grammar elements in the 8 year old itself preparation of narrative material for evaluation of language capacities can be made easy.

Story material can be made use of to build-up comprehension as well as a generation abilities in terms of these grammar elements to see whether they are effective in therapy.

This can be made use of not only with the hearing-impaired but with all language disordered population.