

Comprehension and Production in Hearing Impaired Children

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Contradicting the commonly held view, two Indian studies reported language expression to be better than language reception. In this context, the present study was taken up and it aimed at finding the nature of relationship between comprehension and expression in hearing impaired children within a particular age group and across different age groups.

Kannada language test was administered to twenty hearing impaired children aged between five and nine years.

The test had semantic and syntax sections with 12 and 11 subdivisions respectively. The mean scores and standard deviations for the subdivisions were found. The responses were then analysed using Mann-Whitney test.

The result indicated that the older age groups (7-8 years; 8-9 years) performed better than the younger age groups (5-6 years; 6-7 years). The performance was better on the semantic section than the syntax section across all age groups. The mean receptive scores were higher than the mean expressive scores across all age groups in most of the semantic and syntax sections. Expressive scores were better than receptive scores on few of the subdivisions. In general, results obtained were in agreement with the traditional view point.