

Abstract

This study investigated the relationship between social skills and emotion recognition ability from facial and vocal expressions, as well as the relationship between facial and vocal recognition. 42 preschoolers and 40 elementary students participated in the study. Test materials included some photos of six basic emotions and audiotapes of four emotions. Photos were selected from Picture of Facial Affect (Ekman & Friesen, 1975) and audiotapes were generated in this study. The method of constant content was used to eliminate the semantic effect on vocal recognition. Social skills scores were obtained by teacher ratings using the Social Skills Rating System (SSRS) (Gresham & Elliott, 1990). Results showed that the only significant correlation was an unanticipated negative relation between Self-control and facial recognition of anger. Furthermore, interaction was found between two age groups and two types of recognition task. Emotional characteristics in Chinese culture were discussed and given as possible explanations for the inconsistent findings with pervious studies.