Abstract

        Second Language Acquisition (SLA) has been a prevalent research topic with plenty of studies in the area. Even if SLA is widely investigated for almost five decades, qualitative research methods with experimental studies and case studies have remained dominant. This study aims at applying naturalistic observation to assemble ambient sound snippets from participants by Electronically Activated Recorder (EAR). The method is exceptional in collecting personal acoustic log on a daily basis. The purpose of this study is to examine the association between three elements in SLA including motivation, language exposure to the second language and participant's proficiency in that language.

        On the basis of statistical analysis findings, there were significant correlations between motivation and participants' proficiency in the second language as well as intrinsic motivation and participants' exposure to that language in their natural environment. Even though language exposure to the second language and participant's proficiency were not correlated in a significant manner, language exposure together with motivation became significant predictors of participant's proficiency in the second language.

Keywords: naturalistic observation, Electronically Activated Recorder, second language acquisition, motivation, language exposure