

Abstract

Previous studies indicated consistency effect was present in Chinese character naming but writing studies on consistency effect in Chinese phonograms were rather limited. The current study assessed 16 typical and 11 dyslexic Primary 3 local students who were native in Cantonese Chinese. A delayed copying and a dictation task were administered to each participant, and their orthographic awareness, phonological skills and reading ability were assessed. Significant correlations between phonological awareness and 1) copying, 2) writing inconsistent Chinese characters and 3) reading were discovered; while latency of copying, orthographic errors, writing durations and reading abilities were satisfactory discriminators between the two subject groups. Results suggest that phonological awareness could predict proficiency in writing and reading consistent and inconsistent characters, but proof for orthographic awareness affecting writing process was insufficient.

Keywords: consistency effect, developmental dyslexia, orthographic awareness, phonological awareness, Chinese character writing