

Abstract

The aim of this study was to investigate the Chinese handwriting performance of typical developing children and visual motor integration (VMI) performance, and to examine whether age contributed a factor in influencing the handwriting performance. This study used the data from research relating to the study of Chinese Dyslexic children. The research recruited 23 typically developing children who are age 7 to 9 to complete a Chinese Dictation task, a Delayed Copying task and a VMI task in the pretest. The participants did the same tests in the follow-up test which was held in 2.5 – 3 years after the pretest. Ductus was used to record the performance and the writing duration and accuracy were analyzed in the writing tasks and accuracy was analyzed only in the VMI task. Results indicated that only VMI performance in the early stage can predict the handwriting performance in the later stage, but not vice versa. As it was a longitudinal study, participants did show an average difference comparing the pretest and the follow-up test. The results were discussed with ceiling effect, practice effect and the demand of written tasks in school in different grades.

Keywords:

Chinese handwriting; typically developing children; writing duration; writing accuracy; visual motor integration