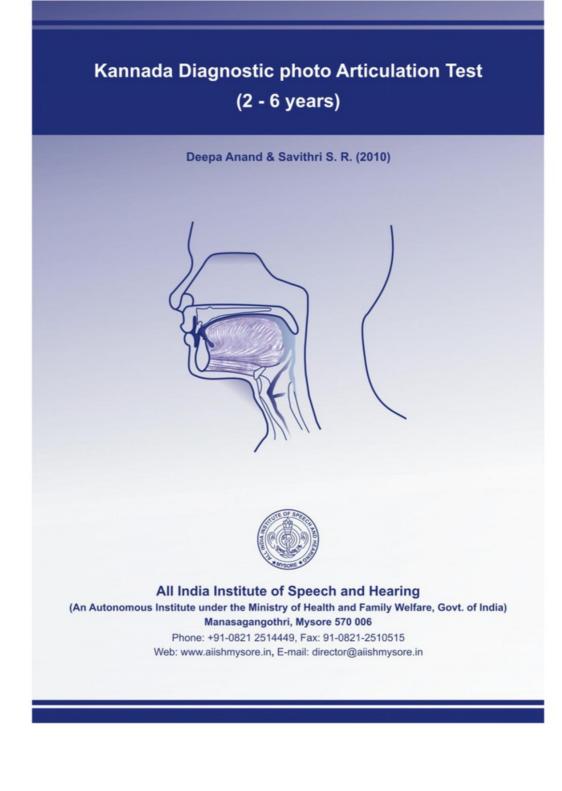
Kannada Diagnostic Photo Articulation Test

by Savithrisr Deepaa

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Kannada Diagnostic Photo Articulation Test (2 - 6 years)

Articulatory disorders are the most frequently occurring among all types of speech disorders. Mispronunciations occur normally during the early stages of speech development. Thus, when some pronunciation errors occur at certain age levels, the child is not considered to have an articulation disorder. Rather use of such articulation patterns is characteristic of normal phonologic acquisition. Evaluation of an individual's articulation involves description of his or her speech sound production and relating this to the normal or standard in the language and community. Therefore, a speech-language pathologist should be able to differentiate those with normal articulation from the abnormal. In order to evaluate the articulation of these patients, tests of articulation are essential. It is also important to validate these articulation tests with time.

Children are acquiring proficiency in articulatory skills at an earlier age than would be expected from previously established norms. Exposure to different environments, advancement in technology, education, nurture, awareness, increased speech stimulation are some of the factors which make them more proficient than previous generation. It has also been more than 33 years, norms been established for Kannada Articulation Test (Tasneem Banu, 1977) and more than 38 years Kannada Articulation Test was developed (Babu, Rathna & Bettagiri, 1972). Hence there was an immediate need to develop and re-standardize Kannada Articulation Test and the norms (Kannada is one of the major Dravidian languages of India, spoken predominantly in the state of Karnataka. Native speakers are called Kannadigas, number roughly 50 million, making it one of the 30th most spoken languages in the world. It is one of the scheduled languages of India and the official & administrative language of the state of Karnataka. Kannada (n.d) *In Wikipedia Online. Retrieved from <u>http://www.wikipedia.com</u>).*

The current test is a photo articulation test of Kannada. This was administered on 240 typically developing children in the age range of 2-6 years. The effect of age and gender on the articulation abilities in children was investigated. Further the test was administered on 10 clients with misarticulation to find the validity.

Kannada Diagnostic Photo Articulation Test - consists of 114 words in picture form which is divided in to two parts. Part I consists of 52 target words and part II consists of 62 target words in picture form. Table 1 shows the various positions tested for the target phonemes.

The test was administered on 240 typically developing ch₃dren (15 males and 15 females in each age range) in the age range of 2 to 2.6 years, 2.6 to 3 years, 3 to 3.6 years, 3.6 to 4 years, 4 to 4.6 years, 4.6 to 5 years, 5 to 5.6 years, and 5.6 to 6 years with an inter age interval of six months.

		Part I		Part II	
Position		I	M	I	M
Phonemes	Vowels	10	-	10	-
	Diphthongs	2	-	1	-
	Consonants	19	21	19	21
	Cluster	-	-	4	7

Table 1: Shows the number of phonemes tested in various positions (I- Initial, M-Medial,).

The pictures were scanned and **7** esented visually one after the other on the screen of laptop and the children were instructed to name the photograph. Each target picture was designed to elicit the target sound as a single phoneme or cluster at each relevant position. Oral responses were audio-recorded. The results of the test are provided as norms in file name Tables and graph.pdf. Table 2 shows the cut-off scores (combined for vowels, consonants and clusters) for typically developing Kannada speaking children in the age range of 2 - 6 flears. Table 3 shows the age of order of acquisition of speech sounds in Kannada speaking boys in the age range of 2 - 6 flears. Table 4 shows the age of order of acquisition of speech sounds in Kannada speaking girls, in the age range of 2 - 6 years. Graph 1 and 2 depicts the %mean and range of articulatory scores for Part I and Part II of Kannada Diagnostic Photo Articulation Test (KDPAT).

Test Administration: Each child is to be tested individually in a quiet, noise free environment. Show pictures one after another. Instruct the child to name the pictures solven. Additional cues can be given to help children name the pictures. If the child fails to name the picture despite giving additional cues, then the child should be made to repeat the word after the examiner. The responses should be audio-recorded and transcribed using broad and narrow IPA transcription.

Scoring: Responses should be analyzed sound-by-sound on a response sheet. Correct responses (CR) should be given a score of 1; if substituted, indicate as S, and the sound by which it is substituted is to be written down and a score of 0.5 should be given; if distorted; it should be indicated using D and give a score of 0.75; and if omitted O and is given a score of zero; if any other type of articulatory deviation is observed - indicate using A0. The misarticulated sounds are given above mentioned weightage because, distortion is considered to be the least severe, next is substitution and the most severe type of misarticulation is omission. The maximum score is 52 in part-I and 62 in part-II (i.e. when all the test phonemes are correctly produced). A criterion of 90% correct response is considered. The test is ordered according to age of acquisition of speech sounds to enable the clinician/tester to test only those speech sounds which are acquired at that particular age.

Interpretation: Refer to the file tables and graph.pdf in the CD.

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