

# Analysis of Speech of Stutterers\*

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Studies have been conducted on several aspects of stuttering. Relationship between linguistic factors and stuttering have also been studied. However, with reference to Kannada language there are only two studies. Therefore it was felt that it is necessary to conduct a study to note relationship between linguistic factors and stuttering in children and adults using Kannada language.

Seventy one adult stutterers and 11 children who were diagnosed were made to read 2 passages (combined and voiced passages). The recorded reading samples were analyzed with the help of three judges, to find out the frequency of occurrence of stuttering with relation to linguistic factors. Further, it was also analyzed to find out the frequency of occurrence of stuttering in reading combined passage and voiced passages in both the groups.

## Conclusions

The following conclusions were drawn based on the results of study :

(1) Most of the stutterers in present study showed normal rate of speech.

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(2) The stutterers in the present study exhibited various characteristics of stuttering. The frequency of occurrence of these characteristics varied from subject to subject. However, it is possible to range these characteristics, in terms of frequency of occurrence in the following hierarchical order :

Repetitions, Prolongations, Hesitations, Pauses, Omissions.

(3) It is found that the initial syllable in the word is most frequently stuttered than the syllable in any other position.

(4) Stuttering was found most frequently on vowels than on consonants, both in case of adults and children in the present study.

(5) The content words were most often submitted for stuttering than the functional words, both in case of adults and children.

(6) The adult stutterers showed more stuttering while reading combined passage than the voiced passage. However, children did not show any such difference.