

Development and Standardization of Speech Test Materials in Manipuri Language *

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The aim of the present study was to construct and standardize SRT and speech discrimination test materials in Manipuri language.

Monosyllabic and polysyllabic words from various sources such as books, magazines, newspapers and normal conversation were administered to 10 adults for familiarity testing. The most familiar words were selected to form four polysyllabic list each one containing 20 words and 4 monosyllabic word lists of 25 words each. The monosyllabic words are not phonetically balanced as studies are not available.

All the test materials were tape-recorded and fed through the speech channel. Five adults comprise the subjects used in the standardization of the speech lists. These lists were presented to the subjects at various intensity levels and articulation curves were plotted in each case. The obtained SRT of 13 dB (Ref. 0 SRT, 0 SRT = 20 dB SPL) is in close agreement with average pure tone which is 11.34 dB. Maximum discrimination score was obtained at 40dBSL (Ref. SRT). In the clinical situation the speech discrimination test has to be administered at 40 dB above SRT. The present study resulted in standardized

speech lists which are equal in difficulty and are valid.

Conclusions

- (1) The present lists yield similar results like any other valid tests of discrimination.
- (2) Normals obtained optimum discrimination at 40 dB SL with reference to SRT.
- (3) The obtained SRT agrees well with PTA.
- (4) All the four lists of each type found to be essentially equivalent and can be used interchangeably.

Limitations of the Study

- (1) This study was limited to only graduate students.
- (2) Population tested was very limited in number.
- (3) Reliability test was not done.

Recommendations for Further Study

- (1) Further standardization of the tests using a larger population.
- (2) The usefulness of the speech materials developed in the present study is to be established by testing a large clinical population.

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