

Articulation Functions for the Common Word Lists between Kannada and Telugu Languages for Native Speakers of Telugu*

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The present study is aimed at establishing articulation function for the common word lists between Kannada and Telugu for native speakers of Telugu. The four lists with Telugu carrier phrase and Kannada carrier phrase were recorded on cassette tape. They were presented through the tape input of a clinical audiometer (Madsen 0B70) at five sensation levels, *i.e.*, 8, 16, 24, 32 and 40 dB SL (ref. : PTA).

Forty young adults (age range 17 years to 25 years) served as subjects. They were selected only if they had the reading and writing knowledge of Telugu and hearing sensitivity was within 20 dB HL (ANSI 1969) for pure tones from 250 to 8000 Hz at octave intervals.

Twenty subjects were presented four lists of words preceded by a Telugu carrier phrase and the remaining twenty were presented the lists with Kannada carrier phrase. The sensation levels and the lists were presented in a predetermined random order.

The scores obtained were analyzed to determine the central tendency (mean and median) of and the variability (standard deviation) in the scores. In addition two-way analysis of variance (Guilford and Fruchter, 1978) was also computed.

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Conclusions

Based on the results obtained in the study, the following conclusions can be drawn :

1. Discrimination scores increase with an increase in sensation level.
2. The four lists are equivalent in difficulty. Thus they can be used interchangeably.
3. There is significant effect of carrier phrase on discrimination scores obtained.

The common word lists between Kannada and Telugu can be used to test the speech discrimination of native speakers of Telugu. Telugu carrier phrase or Kannada carrier phrase can be used, but not interchangeably. Appropriate norms should be used for the lists with Telugu carrier phrase and Kannada carrier phrase.

Suggestions for Further Research

1. To present these lists at 48 dB SL (Ref. : PTA) to see if the scores improve further and an asymptotic level is reached at this level.
2. To study the test-retest reliability.
3. To investigate the diagnostic utility of the test on a clinical population.
4. To study the intelligibility of these words under different acoustic conditions such as different S/N ratio, filtering and time-compression.