

Phonological Process and Accuracy Measures in Typically Developing Punjabi Speaking Children between 3-5 years

SIMRAN KAUR,
SUNILA JOHN
VEENA K.D

B. RAJASHEKHAR
Manipal University, Manipal, India

ABSTRACT

Phonology is an area of linguistics that is concerned with the sounds of language. Since each language has its own unique system of sound patterns, there is a need to study phonological development in different languages. However, lack of published data necessitates the present study on phonological developmental pattern in Punjabi language (Indo-European and Indo-Aryan language), which is unique in terms of 'tonal contrasts'. The present study aimed to investigate the phonological development in terms of frequency of occurrence of phonological process and accuracy measures in normal Punjabi speaking children between 3 – 5 years. A total of 160 children were included and further divided into four different age groups. Articulation Test in Punjabi was administered with the picture naming task, which was audio recorded for further transcription and analysis. It was observed that the most striking phonological processes were deaspiration, aspiration, medial consonant substitution, lowering of vowel and addition of consonant in Punjabi as compared to other Dravidian languages. With increase in age, reduction in frequency of occurrence of phonological process and a typical developmental trend in accuracy measures was found indicating emergence of adult like clear speech. Therefore, it can be concluded that establishment of phonological norms in Punjabi language can be useful in the assessment and management of children with phonological disorders.

Keywords: Punjabi language, phonology, phonological process, phonological accuracy measures.