Inner reading voice styles and eye movements during audio-assisted reading

Yefei Liang
Hiroshima University, Hiroshima, Japan

Takumi Arima
Hiroshima University, Hiroshima, Japan

Aiko Morita
Hiroshima University, Higashi-Hiroshima, Japan

Abstract

Studies have shown that readers who do not always experience an inner reading voice (less-IRV readers) move their eyes more freely and do more efficient silent reading than those who always experience IRV (full-IRV readers). This conclusion suggests that less-IRV readers may not be suited for studying with vocalization. In this study, forty students were assigned to full- and less-IRV reading groups. The main task in the experiment was to read short stories and answer comprehension tests. The reading materials comprised 12 stories, the same as those used by Morita and Takahashi (2019). Participants read them with audio assistance and answered three comprehension tests after reading each story. While reading the stories, the readers' eye movements were recorded. The results of the eye-movement index showed no difference in eye movement patterns (fixation, fixation time, saccade size, regression) and comprehension between the two kinds of readers. We found no relationship between inner reading voice styles and eye movements in audio-assisted reading.

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