

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to investigate the abilities to perceive and produce English /v/ and to explore the correlation between the perception and production of the particular sound. The subjects of this study were 10 M.4 students of the Art program at Chitralada School. Materials were questionnaire, perception test and production test. The questionnaire was designed to collect the subjects' background information, and attitudes toward learning English, as well as awareness of perception and production of English consonants. In the perception test, the subjects were assigned to select target words from their pairs. As for the production test, the subjects were asked to pronounce the target words in the word list.

The results of the perception test revealed that subjects had little difficulty in discriminating the /f/-/v/ contrast as two distinct phonemes, and the mean perception scores in each word position showed that there was a relative degree of difficulty in perceiving /v/ according to word positions. As for the production test, the findings showed that the subjects substituted /w/ for /v/ in word-initial and medial position, whereas /f/ was sometimes produced in final position. In terms of the mean production scores of /v/, the subjects had great difficulty in producing the initial /v/, followed by the final and the medial /v/ ($\bar{X} = 1.7, 3$ and 3.2 out of 4 , respectively). The total production mean score is 7.5 out of 12 which is lower than the total perception score ($\bar{X} = 9.8$).