

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to investigate the ability of auditory language comprehension skill in Thai children. The ages ranged from 5 years to 6 years 11 months. The subjects were 200 children randomly selected from eight kindergartens in Bangkok. They were divided by six-month intervals, into four groups. The test used in this study was modified from The Test for Auditory Comprehension of Language by Carrow (1973). The test consisted of 100 items; both lexical and grammatical structure were being considered in the development of the test. The original test items that did not satisfy Thai grammatical rules were modified or eliminated.

The results of analysis indicated that children aged 5 years to 6 years 11 months appeared to comprehend the majority of Thai lexical and grammatical structures. The test items which children had difficulty with were the verb "dernpai", the adjective "sai", the classifier "cheuk" and the compound-complex sentences. The analysis of variance suggested there were no significant differences between males and females in any of the four age groups. T-test for mean comparison revealed the ability of language comprehension increased with age. The study could be used in the assessment and therapy of children with auditory language comprehension problems.