Nattha Phiroonsawan 2011: The Study of Phonological Awareness in Children with Difficulties in Reading and Writing : The Case Study of Thai Final Consonants. Master of Arts (Applied Linguistics), Major Field: Applied Linguistics, Department of Linguistics. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Puttachat Potibal, Ph.D. 257 pages.

This research aims to analyze learning disability children in terms of problems in reading and writing related to phonological awareness in final consonant sounds of words, and to create a questionnaire on phonological awareness in final consonant sounds for the Matthayom 3 students of Phibunprachasan School. The samples were 21 students studying at Matthayom 3 from Phibunprachasan School.

The research reveals that the variation in final consonant sound of each word written by LD children indicates that they have problems in reading and writing in various aspects, for example: guessing words when reading or writing, reading based on the written form, omitting the final alphabet when reading or writing, switching between the final and the initial consonant when reading and writing, writing other alphabet which is from the same place of articulation and writing additional final alphabets. Moreover, the analysis of the variation of the final consonant sounds of words indicates that there are 4 types of variation as follows: (1) variation based on form, (2) the variation based on sound, (3) the variation based on lacking phonological awareness and (4) the variation based on other factors. According to the analysis of consonant sounds from reading, the final consonant sound /t/ varies the most. This sound is used as the final consonant sound as the replacement of all sounds. The /p/ sound shows the statistic of 24.42 for the variation of sound. According to the sound analysis from the written alphabet, the /p/ and /t/ sound are the final consonant sounds that occur the most from the variation. The sound /p/ shows the statistic of 28.57 of variation.

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