**Evaluating the literary level of fourth grade students in light of speed reading skills**

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**Abstract**---The current research aims to (evaluating the level of fourth-grade literary students in light of speed-reading skills), and to achieve this, the researcher adopted the descriptive approach, and a research tool was built, which is a questionnaire that consisted of (8) main skills and (19) sub-skills, and five alternatives were placed against each skill (Excellent, very good, good, average, poor), and the researchers made sure of the validity and reliability of the tool. The researchers applied the research tool to a sample of fourth-grade literary female students in the schools of Babylon Governorate and its districts, which amounted to (405) female students for the academic year (2021-2022 AD) and after applying The tool is to unload the data, analyze it and treat it statistically in the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) program. The researchers reached a number of results, the most prominent of which were: The literary level of the fourth grade students was positive.

**Keywords**---assessment, level, speed reading skills.

**Introduction**

**Research problem**

The low educational level of teaching reading in schools has not enabled our students to acquire good reading skills that require the reader to comprehend what is read and understand between the lines and what is behind them. spoken and sufficed with it without understanding it (Atia, 2014, 51) Among the problems of weakness in reading are the wrong eye habits in reading and the lack
of movement of the eye on the read line regularly or the lack of it in harmony and the short range of sight during reading, where the pointer must be used to control eye movements and to be a guide to direct the eye (Al-Arnosti, 2016, 204), and all of this As a result of the use of traditional skills in teaching reading, so we have an urgent need for speed reading, which requires the eye to fall on the largest possible number of words in each movement of it. , 30)

Research Importance

Language is one of the most important sources that a person elevates, as it is the tool by which a person thinks and expresses his feelings and thoughts in order to communicate with others. For understanding, synthesis, reminder, and dissemination of culture and a means of social cohesion that is necessary for the individual and society (Al-Samouk and Huda, 2005, 23 ). The Arabic language is the most prominent feature of our Arab culture, and it is the most human language linked to identity. And my soul because it is the mirror of the mind, its structure and its product (Shehata and Samman, 2012, 11 ). Reading is not a goal, but a means of primary education, because the world has begun to look at reading with the same importance that it regards to speaking and walking, and he who reads and understands what he reads quickly can accomplish tasks twice as much as the average reader finishes. Reading makes the mind respond in an accurate and conscious response to printed speech and makes the reader A developing, mature individual with the ability to express himself and exchange opinions to increase the ability to interact, coexist and grow (Ismail, 2011, 82 ). Speed reading is one of the most important reading skills in light of the modern knowledge explosion and the information revolution at the beginning of the twenty-first century. Maintaining the ability to comprehend and comprehend, which is a step forward in using the mind to a greater extent in terms of strengthening memory, writing speed and thinking speed to increase the level of understanding and comprehension (Gharib, 2006, 28-48.)

Research goal

The current research aims to evaluate the level of fourth grade students in reading in the light of speed reading skills.

Search Limits

• Cognitive limit: speed reading skills
• The human limit: the fourth literary students
• Time limit: the first semester of the year 2021-2022
• Spatial limit: fourth-grade literary students in the schools of Babylon Governorate and its districts.

Define terms

• Evaluation: the process of reform and amendment, which is the process by which the shortcomings in the educational process are diagnosed and the necessary treatment is prescribed to correct the weaknesses, as it aims at renewal and development to achieve the desired goals (Al-Hariri, 2009: 176)
Theoretical aspects and previous studies

The importance of the calendar

Evaluation is important in supporting strengths and fixing related weaknesses. Making appropriate decisions for them in the light of the data in the field and in line with modern scientific educational needs, such as developing the learner’s achievement ability and standing on the various skill, emotional and cognitive aspects. It also contributes to setting educational goals for the teacher that are more clear and realistic. In reconsidering his teaching strategies and choosing the teaching aids that serve the learner the most (Fatiha, 2021, 302-310) Calendar helps to influence learners' motivation to learn. This is as a result of informing them of the results and potentials of their mistakes, correcting them and avoiding fear and anxiety among learners during the test. Some scholars also see that the role of evaluation is a motivating role for the learner to participate in the educational and scientific process (Al-Khudair, 1996)

Calendar goals

• The educational evaluation seeks to modify or change the teaching methods and methods so that they fit with the nature of the set goals and help to achieve them.
• The evaluation seeks to know the difficulties and problems that the teacher encounters during his teaching duties in order to treat them.
• It aims to re-arrange, organize and define the roles of the teacher and student in a proper manner, as well as identifying the activities they carry out, which facilitates the process of teaching and learning without difficulties and problems.
• The correct objective is to reveal the special preparations and abilities that the female students enjoy, which helps to predict the extent of the possibility of future success or not.
• Evaluation aims to make the teacher and the learner able to carry out the process of criticism with their positive and negative actions.
• The evaluation aims to strengthen the academic achievement motivation of the teacher and the learner alike, by introducing them to the weaknesses and defects and trying to treat them (Al-Masoudi et al., 2015, 139-140)
Fast reading
Speed reading goals
Speed reading aims to achieve the following goals

- The quick pursuit of everything that is going on around us as efficiently as possible in reading and perusal.
- Controlling the volume of papers and sources of knowledge around us and harnessing them to serve our goals and happiness.
- Quick handling of information while it is being processed, which increases the power of influence in interaction with the mind.
- Using modern mental programs that enable you to encode, enter, store and classify information, which enables you to retrieve it when you need it.
- Quick sorting of information, excluding what you do not want, and focusing on what you need.
- Integrating the processes of understanding, evaluating and criticizing information in one stage.
- Interact with reality and predict the future and prepare for it through a quick and good reception of everything that is going on around you (Hilal, 2005, 14)

Previous studies
Janajra Study (2020-2021)

The study aimed to identify the degree to which Arabic language teachers employ speed-reading skills among sixth-grade students in Nablus Governorate, so the researcher adopted the descriptive approach to conduct the study. The researcher chose a stratified random sample of Arabic language teachers for the sixth grade, and the sample size was (110) male and female teachers. The sixth grade of primary school in Nablus governorate is attributed to the gender variable.

- Chapter Three: Research Methodology and Procedures:
  - First: Research Methodology:
    - The researchers adopted the descriptive approach because it fits with the nature of the current research.
  - Second: Research Procedures:
    - Research community: The research community consisted of (3930) students of the fourth literary grade for the academic year (2021-2022) who numbered (3930)
    - Research sample: The research sample consisted of (405) female students and they were chosen by the researcher in a stratified random manner at a rate of (10%) of the total population.
    - Research tool: Since this research aims to evaluate the literary level of fourth-grade students in light of speed-reading skills, and this requires preparing an observation card questionnaire to evaluate the level of students, and the observation card is an essential process for scientific research because it provides one of the essential elements of science, which are the facts and observation that It is used by the researcher through the various stages that he goes through in his research. He collects facts that help him to identify and define the problem (Mahjoub, 2005, 173)
• Validity: Validity refers to the degree to which the test measures what it was designed to measure, as indicators are reached using special methods (Abdullah II, 2009, 29)

To verify the validity of the tool, the researchers followed the following

• Apparent honesty: The questionnaire was presented to (28) arbitrators who are specialists in the methods of teaching the Arabic language and general teaching curricula.
• The validity of the construction: the researcher adopted the coefficient (Alpha Cronbach) to find the relationship of the sub-skill with other sub-skills within the main skill, and the relationship of each sub-skill with all the sub-skills.

Tool stability

It means that the research tool has a high degree of accuracy, perfection and consistency, that is, that the results shown by the tool are stable in the sense that they refer to the same things or results if they were re-applied to the same sample in the same circumstances after an appropriate period (Atiya, 2009, 108), the researcher followed the method of the observer with the other observer, the researcher, and herself through time. In order for the researcher to verify her research tool, she applied it to the stability sample and then pulled it randomly from the research community, as their number reached (50) students from the literary fourth students in two visits, each separated by an interval of time. For a week, the researcher used the stability correlation coefficient (Cronbach’s alpha) to know the correlation coefficients. The reliability coefficient between the researcher and herself over time was (0.87)

How to apply the tool

The application period in schools started on 3/08/2022, corresponding to Tuesday, and ended on 04/10/2022, which is on Sunday.

Honesty

Validity refers to the degree to which the test measures what it was designed to measure, as indicators are reached for that using special methods (Abdullah II, 2009, 29). The researcher followed the following:

• Apparent honesty
  The researcher took their observations and made the necessary amendments and rephrasing some of her phrases in a clearer manner according to those opinions and observations, as the researcher relied on a rate of (80%) or more from among the opinions and observations. The arbitrators are a criterion for the validity of the paragraphs and their validity in measuring what they were set for, as the tabular value of the (kai) square is in terms of the difference between those who agree and those who disagree and with a statistical function because the calculated score is
greater than the tabular value of (3.84) and with a degree of freedom (1), noting that the number of experts is (28) expert

- **The validity of the construction**
  The researcher adopted the (Cronbach's alpha) coefficient to find the relationship of the sub-skill with other sub-skills within the main skill, and the relationship of each sub-skill with all the sub-skills, and a table (8) shows this, and the (Cronbach's alpha) coefficient to find the relationship for each major skill with the other main skills.

**Tool stability**

It means that the research tool has a high degree of accuracy, perfection and consistency, that is, that the results shown by the tool are stable in the sense that they refer to the same things or results if they were re-applied to the same sample in the same circumstances after an appropriate period (Atiya, 2009, 108).

The researcher followed the method of the observer with the other observer, the researcher, and herself through time. In order for the researcher to verify her research tool, she applied it to the stability sample and then pulled it randomly from the research community, as their number reached (50) students from the literary fourth students in two visits, each separated by a time interval. For a week, the researcher used the stability correlation coefficient (Cronbach's alpha) to know the correlation coefficients. The stability coefficient between the researcher and herself over time was (0.87)

**The method of applying the tool**

The application period in schools started on 3/08/2022, corresponding to Tuesday, and ended on 4/10/2022, corresponding to Sunday.

**Statistical tools (SPSS)**

- Alpha Cronbach coefficient: The researcher used the Alpha Cronbach coefficient to calculate the stability of the search tool in the observation card.
- Chi-square: The researcher used chi-square to find the validity of the apparent validity.
- The weighted mean: the researcher used the weighted mean in arranging the paragraphs of the observation card to know the strengths and weaknesses in each of the card’s paragraphs.

**Fourth chapter**

- The performance of the fourth year of middle school was generally positive.
- The application of speed reading skills has received special attention from female students and teachers.
- Presenting the results of the observation card, explaining the strengths and weaknesses in each of the speed reading skills.
Word recognition skill] ranked first, and its second sequence was in the note card, and this result indicates that the students were able to quickly identify the words, and complete the missing words.

Recommendations and suggestions

- Spreading and enhancing the students’ speed reading skills and introducing the importance of reading.
- Indicating the importance of speed reading to save students time and effort.
- Training students to read at a specific time and to test the extent of comprehension and comprehension.

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