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Differences in Contribution of Lexical Processing Levels in L2 Noun and Verb Processing and their Implications in English Language Teaching

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Abstract

In psycholinguistic studies, with regard to cognitive models, conceptual preparation, lexical concepts, lemmas, morphemes, phonological words and phonetic patterns have been proposed as different levels of lexical processing. In previous studies, some theories have suggested the sequencing and the simultaneity of the processing modules; however, the contribution of each specific processing level has not been determined. In

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this study, with the participation of eighty-six undergraduate students of

English Literature, picture naming task was used to determine the

differences in contribution of lexical processing levels in second language

(L2) noun and verb processing. According to this research, in L2, noun

processing is mostly under the influence of the conceptualization stage and

verb processing is mostly under the influence of the formulation stage.

Therefore, it may be concluded that in language teaching, emphasizing the

visual codes of concrete nouns and the morphological features of verbs,

specifically facilitate learning. Moreover, with respect to the findings of this

research, it may be proposed that nouns have longer retention in comparison

with verbs; however, verbs are more subject to incidental learning.

Keywords: noun and verb Processing, lexical processing levels, picture

naming task, English Language teaching, Learning