

An E-Learning Environment for Phonics: A Study of English Palatalized  
Consonants

有效的字母拼讀法電子學習環境--以英文顎化子音為例

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Abstract

One of the major spelling difficulties that native speakers of English often encountered is the misspelling of palatalized consonants found in the letters t, d, s, and c (Brown & Ellis, 1994; Cumming, 1988). Similarly, Chinese EFL learners were found to have problems in spelling out these palatalized consonants (Kuo, 2001, Su, 2001). Palatalized consonant patterns found in the Taiwan Nine-year integrated curriculum word list, the CEEC SAET word list I, and the CEEC SAET word list II frequently used in elementary and secondary school level in Taiwan were first analyzed. In total, a list of 671 words containing soft c (e.g., the pronunciation of the letter c in prince and scientist) and soft g pattern (e.g., the pronunciation of the letter g in bridge and magic) were extracted from the CEEC SAET word list I and II. In addition, from the latter two word lists, 444 words with other palatalized consonants found in the letters t, d, s, and c were compiled. Based on the predictable nature of these aforementioned palatalized sounds, the second phase of the study then reports the experience of implementing a web-based learning environment specifically designed for improving Chinese EFL learners' spelling performance on English palatalized consonants by integrating the word sort approach and the phonemic awareness training activities. Results from questionnaires given to 209 pre-service secondary school teachers showed that these subjects considered the web-based learning environment that was utilized to be beneficial in enhancing their spelling proficiency.

## 中文摘要

先前以英語為母語及外與之研究皆顯示語言學習者經常誤讀及誤拼帶有顎化子音的單字 (palatalized consonants)。本研究首先針對國內中學使用率極高的兩個詞彙表：《教育部九年一貫英文詞彙表》約一千／二千個英文詞彙及鄭 (2001)《大考中心指定科目考試英文參考詞彙表》約六千五百個英文詞彙進行語言分析。分析結果發現在後者軟音 c (如 prince 及 scientist 中字母 c 之讀音) 及軟音 g (如 bridge 及 magic 之字母 g 之讀音) 的類型出現在 671 個字詞中；而其他顎化子音類型包括字母 t (如 act/action; habit/habitual 之發音變化)、字母 d (如 individual 及 schedule 字母 d 之發音)、字母 c (如 magic/magician; music/musician 之發音變化)、及字母 s (如 discuss/discussion 之發音變化) 的類型則出現在 444 個字詞中。總合此兩類顎化子音共出現在 1115 個字詞中，所佔比例極高。為有效培訓準中小學與在職英語教師及種子教師在發音及拼音教學法方面的知能，本研究提出整合式拼字讀音教學的理念，透過建構一個架設於全球資訊網，以音韻學、語言學、拼字讀音教學、閱讀教學、第二語言習得及電腦輔助語言學習之理論為基礎，結合音韻覺知之各項練習活動及單字分類技巧而成的電子拼字讀音學習環境，希望能有效提昇國中小英語教師在字母拼讀法方面的知能。經由對使用過本字母拼讀學習系統的兩百零九位準中學教師的問卷調查，結果顯示這些準教師們對本研究所開發之網路版拼字讀音學習系統的平均滿意度高達 90%。這些使用者認為這個學習環境非常有利於英語字彙之教授與學習。

關鍵字：字母拼讀法；英文；顎化子音