EFFECT OF A COMPUTER SOFTWARE
ON DISABLED SECOND LANGUAGE LEARNERS' ORAL READING FLUENCY

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ABSTRACT

This study explored how well using computer software can affect on improving English oral reading fluency for disabled learners. It showed how a using computer can reduce the impact of disability for disabled students on oral reading fluency. The focus of this article was specifically for software (natural reader software) applications designed for computer-based instruction in reading for students with learning disabilities. A total of 20 females with a mean age of 14 years old who were attending a public school in Ardabil were subjects of this study. These students were randomly divided into two groups. Group (1) consisted of 10 disabled students with using of the software instruction (experimental group) and Group (2): consisted of 10 disabled students without using of the software (control group). The control group simply attended in their ordinary classroom without using computer software and participated in instruction programs assigned by the teacher in the classroom. The experimental group attended in the computer lab and listened to the text as it is read by natural reader. After treatment sessions the results suggested that the natural reader software group did better than non-software group in oral reading fluency.

Key Words: Disabled students, Natural reader software, Oral reading fluency.