

Speech Tests for Hearing Assessments in Romani Language

Eva Kiktová, Dept. of Slovak Studies, Slavonic Philologies, and Communication, LICOLAB, Faculty of Arts, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, Slovakia, eva.kiktova@upjs.sk

Stanislav Ondáš, Dept. of Electronics and Multimedia Communication, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Informatics, Technical University of Košice, Slovakia, stanislav.ondas@tuke.sk

Abstract

Speech audiometry plays a crucial role in assessing a patient's hearing abilities. By utilizing spoken words as stimuli, this diagnostic technique provides valuable insights into auditory perception of speech. Speech audiometry with other objective and subjective test methods offers a comprehensive understanding of a patient's hearing status. In accordance with international standards and recommendations, speech audiometry dataset should consist of frequently used words that are familiar to the patient and devoid of emotional connotations. This ensures that the test results accurately reflect the patient's hearing sensitivity and not their linguistic knowledge or emotional responses. This study is devoted to speech audiometry in the Romani language, spoken by a substantial minority population in Slovakia. A carefully selected set of 50 Romani words, encompassing 10 nouns, 10 verbs, 10 numerals, 10 adjectives, and 10 objects, serves as the foundation for the test material [1]. These words (one from each category) are used to create five-word sentences with the same syntax structure. It is possible to create a wide variety of test sentences, preventing patients from anticipating the next words and ensuring that their responses are based solely on their auditory perception. The methodology employed in this study is inspired by adaptive matrix tests, a well-established approach to hearing assessment. By repeatedly presenting different arrangements of the same set words, the test minimizes the potential for learning effects and provides a reliable and accurate measuring of hearing function.

Keywords

Romani language, speech audiometry, hearing test

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References

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