

Abstract

This paper presents a research study and findings of the reading habits, attitudes and strategies employed by Form II and Form IV students in Tong Nam Secondary School in Macao. Given that English is one of the weakest subjects of the students in this school, the researcher, an English teacher in the school, strongly believed it important to conduct a scientific survey of the standard of our students understanding of their English reading strategies. For each form, one reading comprehension assessment and a questionnaire were adopted as the research instruments. 242 students participated in the survey, with 121 students from each form. The assessment scores and all items in the questionnaire were addressed. It was found that some reading attitudes, habits and strategies of Form II and Form IV students were common. Results showed significant differences in certain reading strategies used when comparing high- and low-proficient readers in both Form II and Form IV. Through the use of this survey, improvements for teachers in teaching and for students in learning can be attained as teachers can become more aware of the behaviours of their students and thus can give them suitable advice so as to enhance the efficiency of their strategy use in the future.