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Accent, listening and the potential shared-L1 advantage: A DIF perspective

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Abstract

This paper reports on an investigation of an English listening test featuring two accents for two listener groups (including 70 Mandarin Chinese listeners) and three versions of the test. The first test which featured an Australian accent, the second a Mandarin Chinese-accented English, and the third on data from the tests which were standardized on the basis of the standardization procedure for ability on the test featuring a Japanese L1 listener were compared with Japanese-accented speaker norms for Mandarin Chinese listeners. By contrast, Mandarin Chinese listeners on the test featuring a Mandarin Chinese accent of bias are discussed with reference to the

Keywords

accent, differential item functioning, pronunciation

New perspectives on the significant challenges to current practices arising over the past 20 years (Harding, 2002). These critiques of speaker norms to assess

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