Title: Effectiveness of using pronunciation software in teaching pronunciation for efl learners

Tiêu đề: Hiệu quả của ứng dụng phần mềm trong việc dạy phát âm cho người học tiếng anh như một ngoại ngữ

**Key words**:GHP, teaching methodology, pronunciation, pronunciation software

## Abstract

The use of technology in language teaching has been a topic of special interest for researchers all over the globe for many years. This research investigates the effectiveness of integrating a commercial software named Pronunciation Power in teaching pronunciation for EFL learners. Adopting a true-experimental research approach, this study involved the participation of 53 university students, making up two groups. Both groups experienced a six-week pronunciation training course with the same content, but one group were trained using pronunciation software while the other group received instruction in the traditional method. Pretest and posttest were employed to investigate the progress of each group after training. The result was that both groups' pronunciation ability improved significantly after six weeks, and the group that studied with Pronunciation Power made remarkably better progress than the other group. The post-course interview showed students' positive evaluation of computer assisted pronunciation training and their wish to integrate computer software in traditional training class.

## References

- Coniam, D. (2002). Technology as an awareness raising tool for sensitising teachers to features of stress and rhythm in English. *Language Awareness*, 11(1), 30–42.
- Cordier, D. (2009). Speech recognition software for language learning: Toward an evaluation of validity and student perceptions.
- Đề án Ngoại ngữ Quốc gia đến năm 2020. (n.d.). Nhiệm vụ của đề án dạy và học ngoại ngữ trong hệ thống giáo dục quốc dân, giai đoạn 2008-2020 Retrieved October 10, 2016, from http://dean2020.edu.vn/vi/about/
- Derwing, T. M., & Rossiter, J. (2003). The effects of pronunciation instruction on the accuracy, fluency, and complexity of L2 accented speech. Applied language learning, 13, 1-17.
- Elimat, A. K. and AbuSeileek, A. F. (2014). Automatic speech recognition technology as an effective means for teaching pronunciation. *JALT CALL Journal*, 10(1): 21–47.

- Fredricks, J. A., & McColskey, W. (2012). The measurement of student engagement: A comparative analysis of various methods and student self-report instruments. In *Handbook of research on student engagement* (pp. 763-782). Springer US.
- Gambari, A. I., Kutigi, A. U., & Fagbemi, P. O. (2014). Effectiveness of Computer-Assisted PronunciationTeaching and Verbal Ability on the Achievement of Senior Secondary School Students in Oral English. *GIST Education and Learning Research Journal*, (8 Jan-Jun), 11-28.
- Gruba, P. (2006). Playing the videotext: A media literacy perspective on videomediated L2 listening. *Language Learning & Technology*, 10(2), 77-92.
- Ha, C. T. (2005). Common pronunciation problems of Vietnamese learners of English.
- Hansen, J. G. (2006). Acquiring a non-native phonology: Linguistic constraints and social barriers. London, UK: Continuum.
- Hardison, D. M. (2004). Generalization of computer-assisted prosody training: quantitative and qualitative findings, Language Learning. In *Technology*.
- Hirata, Y. (2004). Computer-assisted pronunciation training for native English speakers learning Japanese pitch and duration contrasts. Computer Assisted Language Learning, 17(3–4), 357–376.
- Hismanoglu, M. (2011). Computer Assisted Pronunciation Teaching: From the Past to the Present with its Limitations and Pedagogical Implications. *Frontiers of Language and Teaching, Proceedings of the 2011 IOLC*, 2, 193-202.
- Jenkins, J. (2000). *The phonology of English as an international language*. Oxford University Press.
- Kawai, G., & Hirose, K. (2000). Teaching the pronunciation of Japanese double-mora phonemes using speech recognition technology. Speech Communication, 30, 131–143.
- Kılıçkaya, F. (2011). Improving pronunciation via accent reduction and text-to-speech software. *WorldCALL: International Perspectives on Computer-Assisted Language Learning*, 85-96.
- Levis, J. (2007). Computer technology in teaching and researching pronunciation.

  Annual Review of Applied Linguistics, 27, 184-202. doi: 10.1017/S0267190508070098

- Levis, J. M. (2005). Changing contexts and shifting paradigms in pronunciation teaching. *Tesol Quarterly*, 39(3), 369-377.
- Liu, Y. (2008). The effectiveness of integrating commercial pronunciation software into an ESL pronunciation class. ProQuest.
- Moghaddam, M. S., Nasiri, M., Zarea, A., & Sepehrinia, S. (2012). Teaching Pronunciation: The Lost Ring of the Chain. *Journal of Language Teaching and Research*, *3*(1), 215-219.
- Molhot, G. (1988). Computer-assisted instruction in pronunciation for Chinese speakers of American English. TESOL Quarterly, *22*(1), 91–111.
- Neri, A., Cucchiarini, C., & Strik, H. (2002). Feedback in computer assisted pronunciation training: Technology push or demand pull? Proceedings of ICSLP 2002 (pp. 1209–1212). Denver, CO.
- Neri, A., Cucchiarini, C., & Strik, H. (2006). ASR-based corrective feedback on pronunciation: does it really work?. In *INTERSPEECH*.
- Pearson, P., Pickering, L., & Da Silva, R. (2011). The impact of computer assisted pronunciation training on the improvement of Vietnamese learner production of English syllable margins. In. J. Levis & K. LeVelle (Eds.). Proceedings of the 2nd Pronunciation in Second Language Learning and Teaching Conference, Sept. 2010. (pp. 169-180), Ames, IA: Iowa State University.
- Penfield, W., & Roberts, L. (1959). *Speech and brain mechanisms*. Princeton University Press.
- Rajadurai, J. (2007). Intelligible Pronunciation: Focus on the Proficient L2 Speaker. *The Journal of Asia TEFL*, 4(1), 1-25.
- Setter, J. (2008). Theories and approaches in English pronunciation. 25 Years of Applied Linguistics in Spain: Milestones and Challenges, 447-457.
- Stanculea, A. N., & Bran, C. (2015). Teaching pronunciation through songs. *Journal Plus Education*, *13*(2), 172-179.
- Stenson, N., Downing, B., Smith, J., & Smith, K. (1992). The effectiveness of computer-assisted pronunciation training. *Calico Journal*, 5-19.
- Tweedy, L. (2012). Discovering factors that influence English pronunciation of native *Vietnamese speakers* (Doctoral dissertation, Hamline University).

Yen, A. (2016). Thiếu trầm trọng giáo viên tiếng Anh. Retrieved October 10, 2016, from http://nld.com.vn/giao-duc-khoa-hoc/thieu-tram-trong-giao-vien-tieng-anh-20160414221658642.htm