

21st Language Testing Research Colloquium (LTRC 99)
Tsukuba International Congress Center, Japan, July 28 to 31, 1999

Friday, July 30, Poster Session Two
16:00-17:00 Presentation Session, 17:00-17:45 Discussion Session

The Dictation Test and Its Evaluation for Japanese Speech Using A Portable Computer

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I have developed an interactive system of dictation test for Japanese speech using a portable notebook computer. The system is one of CALL (computer assisted language learning) for Japanese speech. The contents of the test are sentences, words, syllables, special morae and word accent. Contents for consonants are minimal pairs such as [kenki], [genki], [penki] and [benki]. Special morae are tested using long vowels such as [ozi:sa] and choked sounds such as [iQto:].

The dictation scores are automatically stored in a disk file. The system is portable so that student can use it in a lecture room, their home and other places. In an experiment of a dictation test for two Chinese students, scores for words, consonants, long vowels, choked sound and word accent are 83%, 33%, 72%, 59% and 53%, respectively. Specially, the score in consonants is the lowest, /p/, /t/, /k/, /b/, /d/, /g/ are mutually confused, because Chinese students uttered aspirated and unaspirated sounds. The programming language for the system is Java so that the system is multi-platform for different OS such as Windows, Macintosh and UNIX. And the system is also available on the Web server (<http://sp.cis.iwate-u.ac.jp/sp/lesson/j/>).

I will demonstrate the system in the poster session.