The Effect of Using Skimming and Scanning Techniques on First Secondary Scientific Class Students’ Achievement in Reading Comprehension

by

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ABSTRACT

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The purpose of this study was to investigate the effect of using skimming and scanning techniques on first secondary scientific class students' achievement in reading comprehension. Basically, it aimed at answering the following question:-

* Is there a statistically significant difference in the achievement mean scores of first secondary scientific class students (Training Vs No training) due to the effect of using skimming and scanning?

The population of the study consisted of all first secondary scientific class students at secondary schools of Al-Korah Directorate of Education in the second semester (1990/1991).

The sample consisted of four sections chosen by the researcher. Two sections were randomly selected for the experimental group, and
the other two sections were assigned for the control group. The number of students was ninety-four.

The researcher developed training material on both techniques: skimming and scanning for the experimental group.

The researcher also constructed a test consisting of two sub-tests: One for skimming and another for scanning. Each test consisted of eight questions. This test was administered at the end of the training period. Results were analyzed by using "t" test to find out the differences between the mean scores of students on both experimental and control groups.

The results of the study indicated that there was a high statistically significant difference ($\alpha = 0.05$) between the mean scores of students of the two groups for the benefit of the experimental group due to the effect of using skimming and scanning techniques.

In the light of the findings, it was recommended that the Ministry of Education in Jordan should modify the reading comprehension texts in the Secondary School English Curriculum. And the Ministry should devise skimming and scanning exercises on those texts so that students can read fast and comprehend well. Teachers in the field should develop skimming and scanning exercises in order to bridge the gap in the textbooks by referring to PETRA Series which is full of such exercises. It was also recommended that other studies should be conducted to investigate the effect of other variables such as students and teachers' attitudes towards skimming and scanning techniques.