

A Study of Second Foreign Language Learning Strategies Used by College Students in Taiwan

王愛梅、Susanne Schaefer

E-mail: 9706710@mail.dyu.edu.tw

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to investigate the language learning strategies used by college second foreign language learners. There were 150 students with backgrounds in English as their first foreign language and enrolled in the Department of Japanese, French and German as their second foreign language. Participants were from Department of Japanese, French and German at Da Yeh University. The instruments used in this research for data gathering were questionnaire 's and person interviews. The result of this study may be of importance in explaining how second foreign language learning strategies are used, as well as in providing second foreign language instructors in Taiwan with a better understanding of learners ' learning strategies use. This study employed Language Strategy Use Inventory (Andrew D. Cohen, Rebecca L. Oxford, and Julie C. Chi, 2005) to evaluate the frequency with which learners used a variety of Second Foreign Language learning strategies, and conducted the oral interviews with eight Open-ended questions. Results from this study point out that among the four strategic groups " Listening strategies " were the highest ranking categories employed by the participants, and the " Vocabulary strategies " were the least often used by learners. Furthermore, the effective learners used learning strategies more than the less effective group. Finally, insights derived from current studies suggest the research issues for the field of second foreign language learning and strategy instruction and training in future.

Keywords : College students ; Second foreign language ; Foreign language learning strategy ; Second foreign language learners

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