"Self-Regulation of Arabic Reading Comprehension of Upper Elementary Students

Performing Poorly in Arabic" in the « World Conference on Educational Sciences »

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Abstract

This study examines the self-regulation processes of reading comprehension in Arabic

of Lebanese students in upper elementary who perform poorly only in this language.

The focus is on the cognitive and metacognitive strategies these students use, and on

the motivational components of self-regulation. A questionnaire and two different

semi-structured interviews were administered to fifteen elementary students and to

their Arabic teachers, in a French-speaking school in Beirut. Participants do not self-

regulate efficiently their Arabic reading comprehension and they tend to seldom use

cognitive learning strategies. Self-regulatory processes are predicted by participants'

lack of motivation that manifests itself mostly through perceptions of moderate self-

efficacy of performance and low expectations of success. This is the first step towards

understanding the learning processes of students poorly performing in Arabic reading.

It can provide means that will help students in applying self-regulated content learning

of not only texts in Arabic but readings in general.

Keywords: Reading comprehension; SRL; Cognitive strategies; Self-efficacy

