Linguistic Sources in Guessing Word Meaning in Reading Arabic Text

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Abstract

Guessing word meaning from context plays an important role in increasing the level of reading comprehension of second or foreign language learners. Despite various taxonomies for guessing word meanings, most of them generally fall into two categories: linguistic sources and non-linguistic sources. This study investigates the use of second language sources within the linguistic category in guessing the meaning of words. A sample of 10 university students participated in this introspective study by performing reading tasks on selected Arabic texts. Data was then gathered through think aloud procedures and interviews. Results indicated that students utilize...
linguistic sources at different levels: word, sentence and discourse, with morphological knowledge is used far more often than the remaining sources. This lends support to the need for promoting the role of guessing word meaning in Arabic reading comprehension.

**Keywords:** Guessing word meaning; reading Arabic texts; linguistic sources; second language sources; reading comprehension

**References**


