

Review of: "A Review of Prosody, Punctuation, and Dyslexia: Implications for the Use of Speech Technologies"

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The paper is absolutely relevant as it explores the relation between oral prosody, written prosody and dyslexia, by discussing recent neurocognitive findings on prosodic processing and dyslexia.

The text begins by presenting the definition of some important concepts for the study, such as dyslexia, implicit and explicit prosody. Then, based on the Implicit Prosody Hypothesis, which establishes that "the prosodic structures generated during silent reading match the prosodic structures produced when reading aloud." Based on this theory, it is claimed that the development of reading might rely on implicit prosody and not only decoding. On the other hand, "prosody is manifested in writing through punctuation", which is a form of explicit written prosody. As dyslexic students have difficulties with the use of punctuation in writing, the study advocates that prosody and punctuation might present implications for both reading and writing performance, and consequently to the use of speech technologies.

The text is very well-structured and clear. After a brief introduction, it describes the importance of chunking and pauses for text comprehension; interfaces between prosody and syntax; and prosodic processing in dyslexia. This more theoretical part of the text is followed by a more practical one, with suggestions on how to develop prosodic training with dyslexic learners. After that, some implications of using TTS system (speech technologies for language learning) is discussed. It shows that the use of TTS is very important for the dyslexic students, but it can also bear its own difficulties, claiming that these students might not be able to rely on TTS for reading purposes and that there is a need to take these difficulties into consideration.

The text closes presenting implications for language teaching (considering text-to-speech use, evaluation of tools and individual differences), limitations in this field of research and proposes aspects to be studied in the future..

The references are adequate to the study, updated and comprehensive.