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Employing Notetaking Technique To Improve Vietnamese English Specialized Students' Listening To News

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Abstract

This research aims at demonstrating the effectiveness of note-taking technique to improve Vietnamese English specialized students' ability to listen to authentic sources. Action research is employed for this paper, combining with different data collection methods including T-test, questionnaire, and teaching journals. This primarily explains some challenges students may face when they listen to authentic sources and how taking notes can help mitigate those obstacles.

Introduction

Vietnamese students, especially English specialized ones, are generally good at listening to test-based materials, but often struggle with listening to authentic sources such as news. A solution is needed to help them learn listening in a more pragmatic way and improve their performance in National English Contest, and note-taking technique is one. This poster presents some problems students may face when listening to news and proves how effective note-taking technique is in solving those problems.

Methodology

Action research

Data are collected by employing following methods:

- ❖ Questionnaires designed to identify common problems students face when listening to news as well as the efficacy of the intervening technique.
- ❖ Direct class observation combined with teaching journals after each lesson.
- ❖ Pre-test and post-test are utilized

Different note-taking styles: "outline format, beginning with main headings, leading to subheadings, followed by examples" or details (Seigel, 2021, p.10)

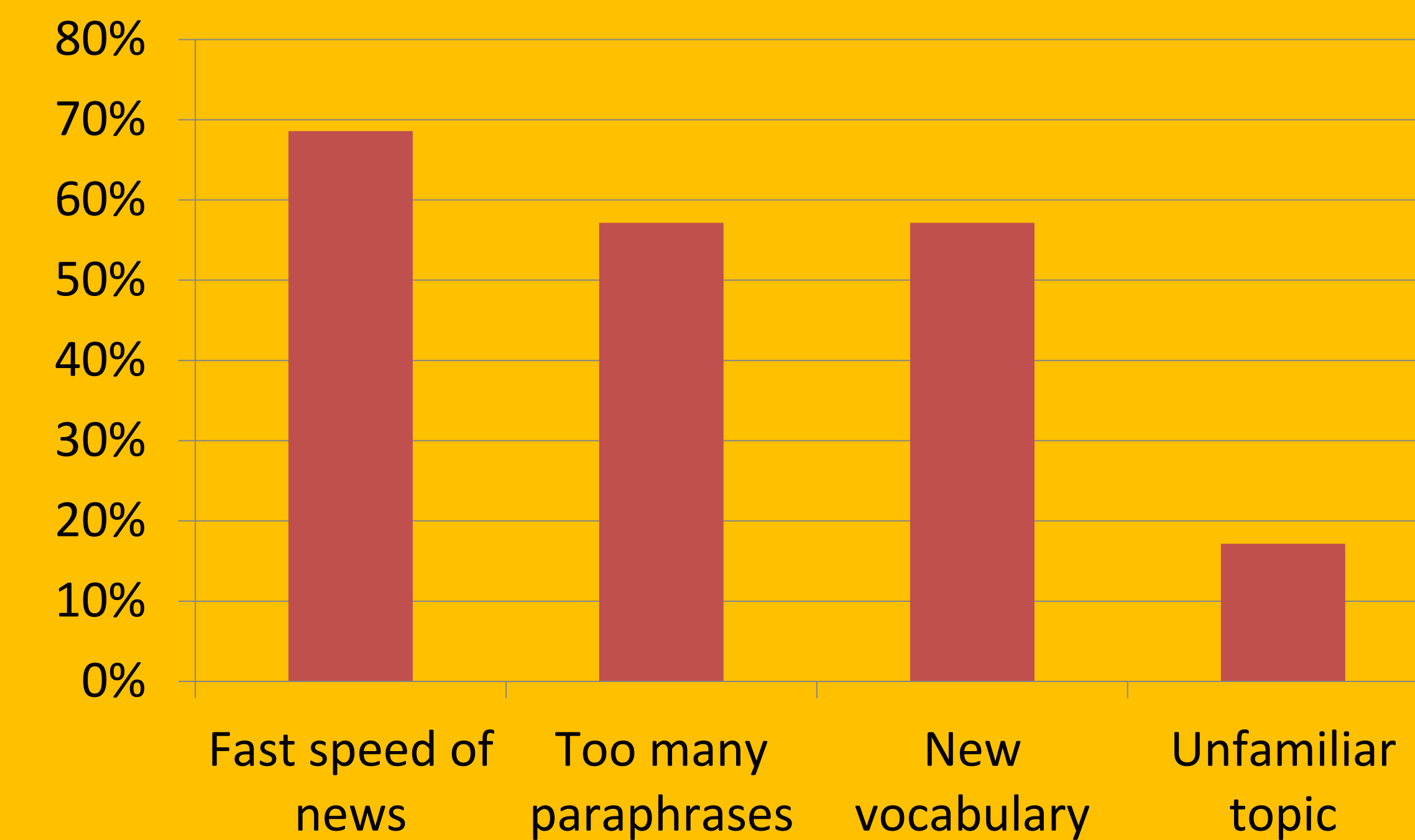
Problems

- Uncommon vocabulary
- Unfamiliar topics
- A variety of accents
- Speed of delivery
- Paraphrasing

Results

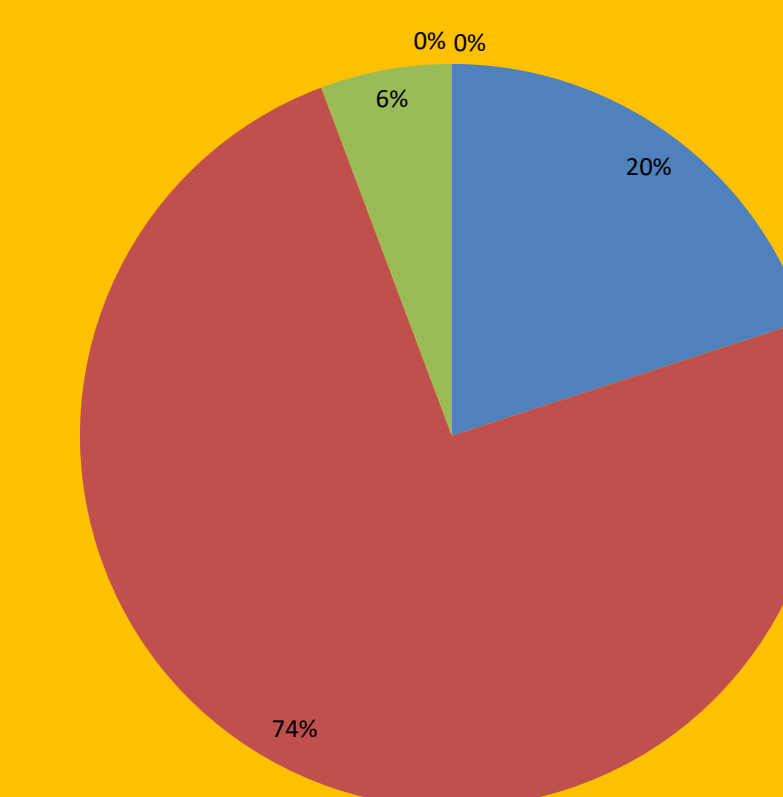
- Most students agree that regular note-taking helps them enrich their background knowledge about various topics with 20% students strongly agreeing and 74% agreeing.
- 94% of students surveyed agree taking notes of news regularly does help them expand their range of vocabulary
- Vast majority of them agreeing this technique really helps them get accustomed to the fast speed of authentic materials.

Figure 2.3. Difficulties students of English major class grade 11 have when doing news listening exercises



Students' response to the positive effect of note-taking on familiarizing them with fast speed of news

Legend: Strongly agree (blue), Agree (red), Normal (green), Disagree (purple), Strongly disagree (orange)



Conclusion

After gathering data and processing the data from questionnaires, scores of pretest and posttest as well as the teaching journals, the author reaches a conclusion that note-taking technique has certain positive impacts on students' learning autonomy and their skills of listening to news.

Suggestions

- conducting the research on different types of questions
- conducting the research with different types of students (mixed-ability class)
- using different research methodology to approach the topic

References

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