

## **E-Reading of the Press Texts**

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### **Abstract**

ICT as a significant facilitator in different fields including education has had many profound effects in the new world. E-reading as a sub-branch of ICT may have some role in language learning. This paper which is based on an experimental research elaborates on the effect of electronic news materials on the improvement of press reading skills. Reading the press text is essential for the students of English who obtain it through being trained on various strategies applicable to these texts in a specialized course offered for this purpose. The present paper attempts to investigate the effect of two types of news materials (electronic and paper-based) on the development of press reading skills of Iranian TEFL sophomores.

The sample of this study consisted of two groups of 30 subjects of Iranian TEFL sophomores taking the Press Reading Course. Both groups received the same instructions based on their textbook. To practice the news reading concepts introduced in the book, the experimental group was assigned to read the soft news on the web; whereas the control group was required to read the paper-based form in the newspaper. The instruments of the study consisted of two tests (pre-test and post-test).

The analysis of the data revealed that there is a significant difference between the performances of the learners in the two different groups. The group that had used electronic materials outperformed the other group in the post test indicating that these materials were more effective than the other form for these subjects. This can suggest that serious pedagogical considerations have to be given to the introduction of reading news texts through the web rather than through the traditional paper-based news to improve the news reading skill of TEFL learners. Also the findings of this study can provide syllabus designers with some fruitful ideas on the selection, gradation, and sequencing of the material from the web for teaching and practicing the concepts of reading news skills.