December 8, 2011

Dear Dr. Turnbull,

We would like to submit our paper, entitled “The use of strategies and knowledge sources for unfamiliar word processing and its relationship to text and word comprehension”, for consideration for publication in your journal. The paper has not been published, is not in press or under review by other journals.

This study is part of a larger study which has resulted in two earlier papers published in *Australian Review of Applied Linguistics* (2010, 33/2) and the *Hong Kong Journal of Applied Linguistics* (2010, 12/2). But the current manuscript is substantially different from the two published papers in the following ways:

1) In the manuscript, we examine the relationship between text comprehension and the use of strategies for processing unfamiliar words, and the relationship between word comprehension and the use of knowledge sources for inferring word meaning. The issue of how *successful/unsuccessful* text and word comprehension could be related to the use of strategies and knowledge sources was not addressed previously. A systematic study of these issues is lacking in the literature as well. A proper understanding of the issue will help us understand the relationship between the process and product of listening and inform language pedagogy.

2) The published papers address the effect of contextual clues and language proficiency on the use strategies and knowledge sources for processing unfamiliar words in listening comprehension. In the current manuscript, we present findings of the types of strategies that L2 learners use to process unfamiliar words and the knowledge sources they use to infer word meaning, without looking at the effect of contextual clues and language proficiency. The current study provides researchers and instructors with a comprehensive picture of the investigated issues and form the basis for studies examining the effect of other factors on unfamiliar word processing.

If you have any questions on the manuscript, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please see our contact information on the title page. We thank you for your consideration and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Wei Cai Benny P.H. Lee

**Title:**

The use of strategies and knowledge sources for unfamiliar word processing and its relationship to text and word comprehension

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