



## **The Effects of Different Amounts of Planning Time on Accuracy of Producing Certain Grammatical Items in an Oral Narrative Task**

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### **Abstract**

This study examines the effects of different amounts of planning time on accuracy of producing certain grammatical items in an oral narrative task. It is a study based on 17 adult low- and intermediate- level Arabic learners in a Libyan university during the Calendar Year 2008 – 2009. A cross-sectional research was carried out in which accuracy of articles use was analysed under three conditions of planning time (No planning, 1- and 5- minutes planning time) in an oral story retelling task.

Results show that the two amounts of planning time 1- and 5- minutes did not affect accuracy of articles use. It was found that allowing learners time to plan before doing the task does not improve the production of accurate grammatical items. Thus, planning time did not function as a facilitator for second language accurate production in this research. However, it seemed to be that during planning time learners focused on the functional aspect of the language rather than the linguistic one resulting in less accurate production of articles.

The need for future research investigating this area of language performance is considered together with its implications for language teaching.



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