



Does visual feedback improve pronunciation? The effect of computer software training on learners' pronunciation on segmental and suprasegmentals features.



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What is the main goal of students who learn another language?



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Teachers' doubts

Segmental

Suprasegmental



Goal

The goal of this project is to examine the effectiveness of visual feedback using Praat software (Boersma & Weenink, 2018) to help students improve their pronunciation on segmental and suprasegmental features of the L2 English language.



1. How do computer training on segmental (vowels) and suprasegmental (stress and intonation) features contribute to improve intelligibility?
2. For how long does improvement last after the training?



Advantages of using Praat

- Promote students' self-learning
- Listen to their own voice
- Analyze and visualize the utterances
- Compare them with their models (teachers)
- Being able to correct their own wrong pronunciation
- Autonomous



Participants

- L1 Spanish speakers
- 24 students : fifth semester
- Phonetics- Phonology
- Future second language teachers: Main major is English
Second major is Spanish
- The learning context of English takes place in a classroom



Segmental training Minimal pair

/ i / vs / ɪ /	/ u / vs / ʊ /	/ ε / vs / æ /	/ ʌ / vs / ɑ /
sheep [ʃi:p] ship [ʃɪp] cheap [tʃi:p] chip [tʃɪp] keys [k ^h i:s] kiss [k ^h ɪs] feet [fi:t] fit [fɪt] seat [si:t] sit [sɪt]	boot [bu:t] book [bʊk] food [fu:d] foot [fʊt] pool [p ^h u:l] pull [p ^h ʊl] fool [fu:l] full [fʊl] suit [su:t] soot [sʊt]	bet [bet] bat [æt] beg [beg] bag [bæg] men [men] man [mæn] pen [p ^h en] pan [p ^h æn] send [send] sand [sænd]	bus [bʌs] boss [bɑ:s] dug [dʌg] dog [dɑ:g] cut [k ^h ʌt] caught [k ^h ɑ:t] luck [lʌk] lock [lɑ:k] hut [hʌt] hot [hɑ:t]

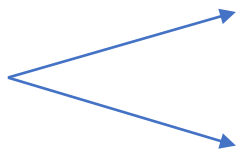


Suprasegmental training

Words	Declarative statements	Questions
<p>happy intelligent tomorrow eternity refrigerator apple house experience computer documentation</p>	<p>My boss is here. My bus is here. The student records his voice. The food is not delicious. The ship is big. The sheep is big. The boot is not dirty “Fit” is her word “Feet” is her word</p>	<p>Is the book dirty? What is the meaning of “fit”? Does the students record her voice? How old is your ship? How old is your sheep? Where is your bus? Where is your boss? Is the food delicious?</p>



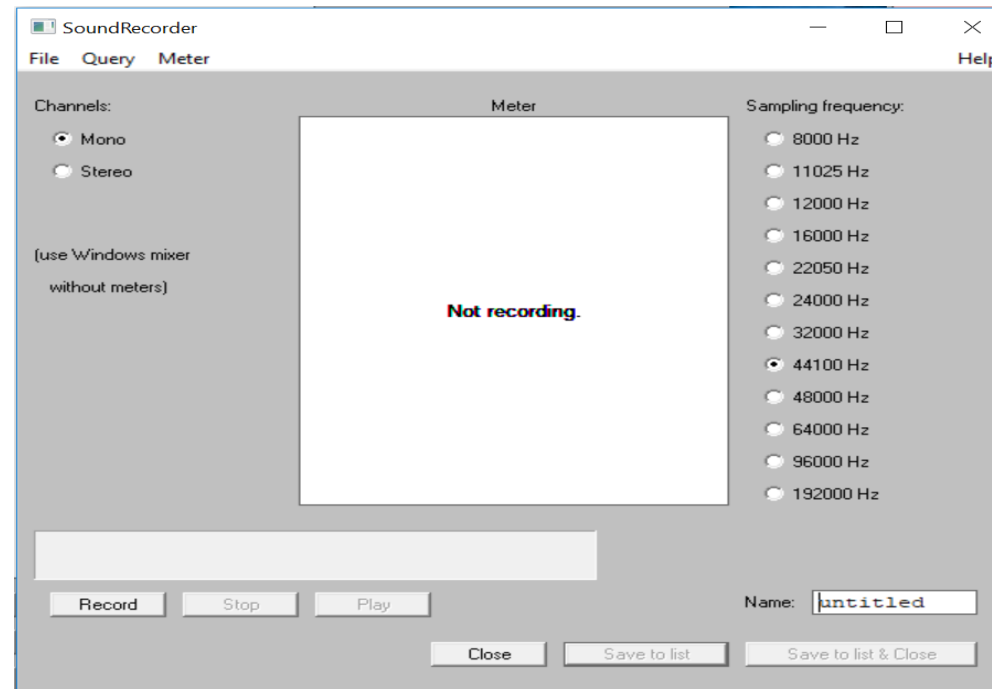
Procedures

1. The application of a pre-test
2. Acoustic analysis
3. Teachers' judgement
4. Native' speaker judgement
5. Training section:
8 weeks 
 - 4 weeks - segmental
 - 4 weeks - suprasegmental
4. Application of the post-test



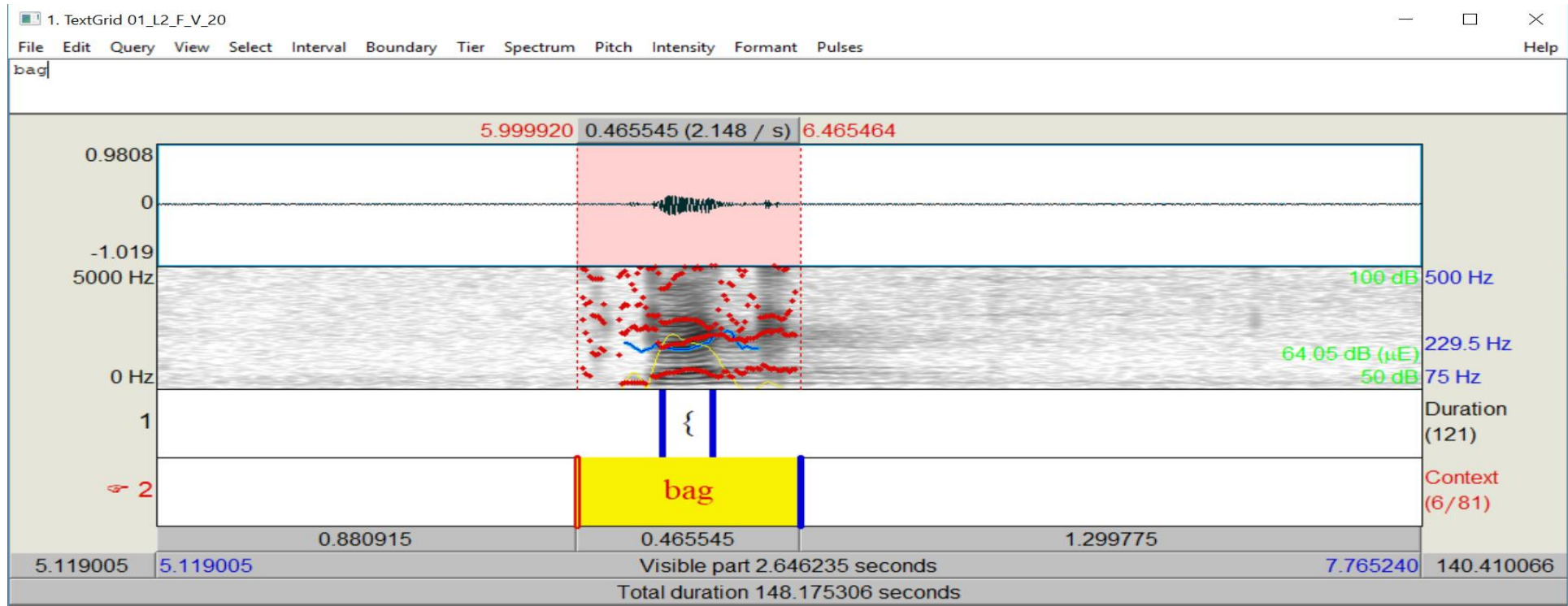
Praat software

Recording





Visual feedback





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Thanks for your attention !