Table of Contents

1. Introduction……1
1.1 Background and Motivation…….1
1.2 Statements of Problem……11
1.3 Purposes of the Study…….13
1.4 Significance of the Study……...13
2. Literature Review…….15
2.1 Lexical Knowledge…….15
2.1.1 The Breadth and Depth of Lexical Knowledge……...……15
2.1.2 The Breadth of Lexical Knowledge……...…….15
2.1.3 Depth of Lexical Knowledge……...……...17
2.2 Language Learning Strategies……23
2.2.1 Definition and Categorization of Language Learning Strategies……23
2.2.2 Studies on Vocabulary Learning Strategies…….26
2.3 Cognitive Theories in Vocabulary Learning……..31
2.3.1 The Memory System..…… 31
2.3.2 Levels of Processing Theory……...32
2.3.3 Dual Coding Theory……34
2.3.4 The Keyword Method……...……..36
2.4 Summary……39
3.Method……..41
3.1 Subjects……..41
3.2 Experimental Design……..42
3.3 Hypothesis……..43
3.4 Materials and Equipments…….....43
3.4.1 English Proficiency Test……..43
3.4.2 An English Textbook-Lung Tung Edition-Book I……...……44
3.4.3 Word Lists……...44
3.4.4 Word Quizzes and One Periodical Exam……...…….45
3.4.5 A Projector and Tape-recorder…….47
3.5 Procedures……..47
3.6 Data analysis……..52
4. Results and Discussion…….53
4.1 The Results of the Word Tests……53
4.1.1 The Results of the Pre-Test……..53
4.1.2 The Results of Four Immediate Word Quizzes (IWQ1, 2, 3, 4) and Four Delayed Word Quizzes (DWQ1, 2, 3, 4)……...……. 54

4.1.3 The Results of the Vocabulary Section in the Periodical Exam……..59
4.1.4 Summary of the Quantitative Study……60
4.2 Interview Responses from the Subjects in the Experimental Group……..61
4.2.1 Summary of the Qualitative Study……..64
4.3 Discussions on the Major Findings……...…64
4.3.1 Learning Strategies and Vocabulary Acquisition……64
4.3.2 Cognitive Theories and Vocabulary Acquisition……67
4.3.3 Lexical Knowledge and Vocabulary Acquisition……69
4.3.4 Factors That Made the Subjects Fail to Spell or Misspell the Words..72
4.3.4.1 Pronounceability and Orthography…….…….....73
4.3.4.2 Synformy (similarity of lexical forms)……79
4.3.4.3 Abstractness……..79
5. Conclusion…….……...……81
5.1 Summary of the Results……81
5.2 Pedagogical Implications……...83
5.3 Limitations of the Present Study and Suggestions for Further Study……87
Appendixes
A……...89
B……...……95
C…….…112
References…….…….…120

List of Tables

Table

2.1 Features of Language Learning Strategies…….24

3.1 The Experimental Design……...42

3.2 The Time Table of Teaching Procedure…….....51

4.1 The Results of the Pre-Test……54

4.2 The Subjects' Performance on IWQs and DWQs……..55

4.3 The Results of the Vocabulary Section in the Periodical Exam…….....60

4.4 Misspelled Words I…….....74

4.5 Vowels in Unstressed Syllables…….....76

4.6 Misspelled Words II……...76

4.7 Misspelled Words III……..77

Lists of Figures

Figure

4.1 The Comparison of Average Scores of the Two Groups in Part A…….56

4.2 The Comparison of Average Scores of the Two Groups in Part B…….56

4.3 The Comparison of Average Scores between Part A and Part B in Group A…….57

4.4 The Comparison of Average Scores between Part A and Part B in Group B…….57

4.5 The Results of the Vocabulary Section in the Periodical Exam between the Two Groups……..…60