

A Structural Equation Modeling Approach to Strategy Use and Reading Comprehension

阅读理解与策略的结构方程模型

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本书作者李光敏 2001 年在我指导下开始攻读博士学位,2004 年毕业后留校任教。数年来,她潜心教学与科研,取得骄人成绩,已成为我校语言测试领域中的中青年学术骨干。她的博士论文经过认真修改之后以专著的形式出版。作为她的导师,看到她所取得的成绩,我感到由衷地高兴。李光敏请我为她的专著作序,我欣然应允,但愿能为她的这本心血之作锦上添花。

阅读是语言学习或语言活动中必须掌握的一项技能。无论是在母语还是外语环境中,阅读均为一项必不可少的语言技能,是人们获取信息的重要手段。在语言学各个领域中对阅读理解的研究都很多,如心理语言学,认知语言学,第二语言习得,语言测试,语言教学,等等。其中,在语言测试领域中关于阅读的研究也已不胜枚举,但是以一个完整的认知理论为框架切入的还为数不多。李光敏博士以Kintsch (1998)提出的构建整合模型为理论基础,以阅读策略在阅读理解中的作用为出发点,以结构方程模型为统计分析方法,研究了阅读策略对阅读理解各个阶段的影响,揭示了阅读策略与阅读理解之间的复杂关系,为阅读理解这样一个老课题提供了新的视角。

本书内容涉猎广泛,包括阅读的理论模型,学习策略模型,以及结构方程模型的统计方法。其中,结构方程模型是一个强大的统计工具,因其原理深奥,操作复杂,尽管在心理学的研究中应用的比较

### 摘要

近年来,随着人们对二语学习研究的深入,学习策略逐渐为研究者所重视。Bachman (1990)更提出了语言使用的交际语言能力构成理论。在这个理论框架中,语言能力和知识结构在策略能力的作用下,与心理机制和情景场合相互作用以实现交际语言的使用。这个理论模型充分强调了学习策略在语言学习和使用中的重要作用。本研究正是基于这个理论展开的。

阅读是一项重要的语言学习活动和技能,而专门针对阅读理解策略的研究却并不多。另外,阅读策略的研究从未从心理学或认知的角度对阅读本身进行分析。因此,这些研究无法真正从理论上论证策略的使用对阅读过程的影响。鉴于此,本研究以阅读策略在阅读理解中的作用为出发点,利用结构方程模型的统计分析方法,着重研究阅读策略对阅读理解各个阶段的影响,旨在揭示阅读策略与阅读理解之间的因果关系。本研究依据 Kintsch (1998)提出的构建整合模型将阅读理解分为构建和整合两个阶段。另外,基于众多学者对学习策略的研究,本研究选取最具代表性的认知策略和元认知策略作为阅读策略的代表,并具体围绕六大研究问题展开:

- 1)外语学习者的阅读理解的因子结构如何?
- 2) 外语学习者的元认知策略的使用的因子结构如何?
- 3)外语学习者的认知策略的使用的因子结构如何?

此为试读,需要完整PDF请访问: www.ertongbook.com

第三,认知策略也是一个由两个因子构成的模型。这两个因子 分别为自下而上的过程和自上而下的过程。前者包括利用资源,记 笔记,归纳,翻译,迁移,概要和精加工;后者包括归类,推断,精加工 和演绎。

第四,认知策略与元认知策略之间存在直接的因果关系。阅读监控策略直接作用于认知策略的使用,尤其是自下而上的认知策略的使用。交叉负荷在认知策略的使用中比较普遍。如资源的利用和演绎法在认知策略的两个过程中都有负荷,说明这两种策略的双重作用。此外,记笔记和翻译这两种认知策略在阅读监控这个元认知过程中也有负荷,充分反映了元认知策略对于认知策略使用的监控和管理作用。

第五,认知策略和元认知策略的使用对于阅读理解都有直接的显著影响。一方面,自上而下认知过程仅对构建过程有微弱的促进作用。而自下而上过程则对阅读理解的两个过程都有直接影响,其中对构建过程的影响是负向的。这说明每一种策略的使用和影响并非只局限于某一个阅读过程,而策略的使用也会由于某种原因对阅读理解产生负面影响。另一方面,元认知策略的两个使用过程都对阅读理解有直接的促进作用。其中阅读监控的作用尤其显著,特别是对构建过程。此外,阅读监控对认知策略的使用也有直接的控制作用。

最后,通过对另外一组来自同一总体任意样本的检测证明,上述研究获得的基准模型具有跨样本的有效性。

本论文的研究成果在理论和实践上都具有一定的意义。在理论上,本研究用结构方程模型的研究方法,通过定量和定性相结合的分析,具体说明了认知策略和元认知策略在阅读理解各个阶段中的作用,揭示了二者关系的规律性和复杂性,并且结合语言能力和知识结

### **Abstract**

Research on second language learning strategies has flourished in recent decades and resulted in abundant findings for the effect of language learning strategy use on second language performance. However, in-depth empirical research on the relationship between reading comprehension and reading strategy use is still lacking. This dissertation reports an exploratory study that investigated the effect of strategy use on the reading performance of advanced Chinese EFL learners. The study aimed to investigate the degree to which cognitive and metacognitive strategy use affects reading comprehension. Being exploratory in nature, it sought to generate hypotheses and stimulate further researches on second language acquisition, language testing, and language teaching rather than to verify existing hypotheses. The study addressed the following questions:

- 1. What is the factorial structure of the reading comprehension performance of advanced Chinese EFL learners?
- 2. What is the factorial structure of metacognitive strategy use of advanced Chinese EFL learners?
- 3. What is the factorial structure of cognitive strategy use of advanced Chinese EFL learners?
  - 4. What is the relationship between metacognitive strategy use and

of the construction process and the integration process. The former is indicated by the textbased microstructure and textbased macrostructure variables. Similarly, the integration process is represented by the situation modeled microstructure and the situation modeled macrostructure variables.

Secondly, metacognitive strategy use is represented by a measurement model with two moderately correlated factors, the reading preparations process and the reading monitoring process. The former is indicated by pre-reading strategies and the latter by on-line and post-reading strategies.

Thirdly, the factorial analyses for cognitive strategy use produce a measurement model with two factors, the bottom-up process and the top-down process.

Fourthly, metacognitive strategy use has a direct impact on the use of cognitive strategies in reading comprehension. In particular, the reading monitoring metacognitive process has a direct influence on the cognitive processes and the influence is much more significant on the bottom-up process than on the top-down process. The other metacognitive process, reading preparations, however, does not show any significant direct impact on either of the two cognitive processes.

Next, all of the cognitive strategies have a direct impact on the reading comprehension processes. However, the impact varies in degree. Similarly, all the metacognitive strategies have a direct impact on the reading processes, too. Reading monitoring is the most powerful mental process, for it significantly improves both processes of reading comprehension. Its impact on the construction process is even more significant. Besides their direct impact on the reading processes,

metacognitive strategies, particularly the reading monitoring strategies, also have a direct impact on the use of cognitive strategies.

Finally, the baseline model generated from the calibration group was successfully cross-validated, suggesting that the relationship between reading comprehension and strategy use represented by the baseline model is generalizable to any random sample of advanced Chinese EFL learners.

In sum, the findings of this study reveals the nature of reading comprehension, the nature of second language strategy use, and the complex causal relationship between cognitive and metacognitive strategy use and reading comprehension. The findings provide valuable insights into the instruction and assessment of reading comprehension.

cognitive strategy use of advanced Chinese EFL learners?

- 5. What is the relationship between the use of cognitive and metacognitive strategies and reading comprehension performance of advanced Chinese EFL learners?
- 6. Is this relationship invariant across random samples of advanced Chinese EFL learners?

Altogether 340 junior and senior university students of English participated in this study. They were from four universities in China, namely, Dalian University of Technology, Dalian Maritime University, Dongbei University of Finance and Economics, and South China University of Technology. The participants were randomly divided into two groups. One was the calibration group, consisting of 206 students. The other was the validation group, consisting of 134 students.

The current study was based on both qualitative and quantitative analyses. The major statistical instrument was the structural equation modeling approach. It first classified the variables into observed variables and latent variables for reading comprehension and cognitive and metacognitive strategy use. It then explored the inner structures of the three constructs by establishing measurement models reflecting the relationship between the observed variables and latent variables. Finally, it generated a structural model to investigate the relationship between reading comprehension and reading strategy use. These statistical analyses were complemented by abundant qualitative analyses based on theory and practice.

The research findings of the current study are as follows.

Firstly, reading comprehension is a two-factor construct, consisting

构与学习策略的关系,对阅读策略对阅读理解的解释力做了分析。 在实践上,本研究证明了阅读策略的使用在阅读理解中的重要性和 复杂性。阅读策略是影响理解的重要因素,在文本信息与读者的知识和语言能力间起着桥梁的作用。因此,在阅读教学和测试中,阅读 策略与阅读理解之间的关系所提供的信息能使教学的内容和测试的 反馈更具针对性,因而使语言学习更为有效。

本研究在设计上仍有待改进之处,如研究对象的数量不够大,因而其代表性仍有待进一步检验。今后的研究可以尝试从理论上对阅读理解和阅读策略作进一步的分析和诠释,以期更为真实全面地反映二者关系。此外,今后的研究可以从更多的视角和维度入手,如对某能力组的长期的跟踪研究可以发现阅读策略的有效性是否随着能力的增长而有所改变;如对于同一能力组,阅读任务的不同和文本可读性的差异是否会导致阅读策略的使用与阅读理解的关系发生改变;又如,该关系在能力组间的差异是否有规律可循,等等。

- 4)外语学习者的认知策略和元认知策略的使用之间的关系如何?
  - 5) 外语学习者的阅读策略的使用和阅读理解之间关系如何?
  - 6) 上述关系是否具有跨样本的有效性?

本研究的研究手段包括一套阅读理解试题和一套阅读策略的问卷。在正式实验之前,首先对试题进行了测试和效度分析。二十名受试先作完试题,然后接受录音采访,要求陈述答题过程,以验证正确的解答源于正确的阅读心理过程,而非借助答题策略。录音语料全部转写成书面文字以供参考。本研究的研究对象为340名英语专业三四年级学生,分别来自于大连海事大学,大连理工大学,东北财经大学和华南理工大学。受试分为两组。第一组为建模组,有206人。第二组为效度组,有134人。

本研究采用定性和定量分析组合的方法,用结构方程模型把阅读理解和阅读策略的变量分别分为观测变量和潜在变量,通过建立测量模型和结构模型依次描述观测变量与潜在变量之间的关系,及潜在变量与潜在变量之间的关系,以揭示阅读理解和策略使用之间的多层次的关系。

本研究的发现主要有以下几个方面:

首先,通过探索性因子分析和验证性因子分析证明阅读理解为一个双因子结构。这两个因子分别为构建过程和整合过程。构建过程指构建基于文本的微结构和宏结构,而整合过程则指建立情景模式的微结构和宏结构。

其次,元认知策略也是由两个因子构成的模型。这两个因子分别为阅读准备过程和监控过程。阅读准备过程包括计划,定向注意,选择注意,自我管理和自我监控。阅读监控过程包括自我监控,识别问题,以及自我评估。

早,但在当时的语言测试领域还属于比较新的方法。尤其是在国内的语言测试领域,李光敏博士勇于钻研,首次系统地使用了这一工具,服务于她的研究思想,使得她的研究能够揭示更为深刻的关系,得出更为有价值的结论。

除了上述理论的贡献外,该研究对外语教学和测试也提出了新的思路,具有较强的应用价值,揭示了阅读成绩背后的更为重要的信息。在外语教学中,怎样提高教学质量,提高学生的阅读水平是教师们所关注的一个重要问题。但是,怎样定义并分析阅读理解?阅读成绩相同是否说明阅读能力相同?阅读策略的使用到底怎样影响阅读理解?是不是用得越多效果越好?学生的阅读水平差该怎样提高?上述这些问题都是外语教师想要知道的。李光敏博士在她的研究中对以上问题都一一作答,愿读者能够在书中得到启发,加深对这些问题的认识,使教学工作更为有效。

该专著结构严谨、用词准确、行文规范,而且对资料文献的征引 翔实、充分到位,表现出作者的严谨学风和治学态度。

《阅读理解与策略的结构方程模型》是李光敏博士在我指导下完成的博士学位论文,也是她学术研究的新起点。今天,在这部学术专著即将出版之际,我向光敏表示祝贺,并由衷地祝愿她在学术研究的道路上走得更远。

曾用强 2009 年 9 月 10 日

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