

Materials Reviews / Évaluation des ressources

Phonological Analysis Practice: An Electronic Workbook

Watson, M., Murthy, S.N., & Wadhwa, N. (2003)

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Phonological Analysis Practice: An Electronic Workbook is a CD-ROM designed for practice and review of phonological analysis procedures and concepts. The following topics are included:

1. Review: This section reviews terminology and concepts such as the basics of consonants, vowels and syllable shapes. It includes "flash card" style opportunities to test your knowledge of terminology and place, manner, and voicing characteristics.

2. Analysis: This section includes descriptions, procedures, forms and exercises for conducting relational and independent analyses. These include phonetic inventory, syllable and word shape inventory, basic contrasts (anterior/posterior, stop/continuant, etc.), phonological processes, phonemic use and percent consonants correct.

3. Video: A video segment of a phonological sample is provided.

4. Tools: Additional information such as developmental charts, International Phonetic Alphabet charts, and the various forms used throughout are included in this section.

5. Instructions: Instructions for use are included.

This program is extremely easy to use. The menus are clear and navigation is logical. Explanations are provided in paragraph form at the beginning of each section, outlining important background information and instructions to help review concepts, providing a primer for practice.

This tool has many strengths. The practice exercises are valuable and can be corrected and redone to ensure mastery of each analysis method. The forms used for each type of analysis can be printed and therefore used on other samples. The analysis methods included are quite broad and the inclusion of both independent and relational analyses is consistent with current practice in phonology.

The creators of *Phonological Analysis Practice* state that the program can be used to learn principles of phonological analysis; however, previous instruction in phonetics would be necessary to effectively use this tool. The analysis methods reviewed could serve the educational and/or clinical needs of uncomplicated clients, but for

more involved clients, other forms of analysis would be needed in addition to those presented.

The most appropriate audience for this program would be student speech-language pathologists who have already had some introductory phonetics and linguistics training. University instructors could use this review for laboratory practice during phonology courses. *Phonological Analysis Practice* could also be used as a review tool for professionals who do not consistently work in the area of phonology. The inclusion of a variety of developmental norms is especially helpful for working speech-language pathologists.

Phonological Analysis Practice is a valuable tool for review and practice of basic principles in analysis.

