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## **A CASE STUDY OF ACADEMIC, SOCIAL AND FAMILY HISTORY AND BEHAVIOURAL SITUATION OF BELOW AVERAGE LEVEL STUDENT READERS WITH SPELLING AND WORD RECOGNITION CHALLENGES**

**S.S.S. De Silva**

*Department of English Language Studies, University of Vocational Technology, Sri Lanka  
elt18b230@uovt.ac.lk*

**Abstract:** Dyslexia is underrated due to teachers' ignorance, a lack of identification awareness, and educational resources in Sri Lanka. This study aims at identifying the academic, social, and family history and behavioral characteristics of student readers with spelling and word recognition at below average level. The objectives are to find out the academic, social, and family histories and behavioral characteristics. Additionally, three students were selected, and data was collected using two observational checklists with 25 and 50 key statements on a 5-point Likert scale. A first checklist with 25 statements was used to collect data from three students' primary and secondary teachers and five family members: parents, relatives. The three students were surveyed using a dyslexic screening test (DST) with 50 statements by an instructor of special learning education. The data was analyzed using descriptive analysis, and a descriptive mix method was used for identification and analysis. 57 characteristics were identified out of 75 (25+50) related to the characteristics: academic, social, family history, and behavioral, by two checklists. Findings were classified under four themes: Checklist 1 (25): 10 academics, 5 social, 5 family history, and 5 behavioral; checklist 2 (DST): 20 academics, 5 behavioral, 5 social and 2 family histories were identified.

**Keywords:** Characteristics, Spelling, Word recognition.