

Rathmalana, Sri Lanka | 12th. December 2024

**AN ANALYSIS OF PRONUNCIATION TEACHING INCLUSION INTO SRI
LANKAN ENGLISH TEXTBOOKS FROM GRADE THREE TO G. C. E.
(A/L)**

R. M. Azver and A. A. Gunawardana

*Department of Language Studies, University of Vocational Technology, Sri Lanka
rafeela1982@gmail.com*

Abstract: Pronunciation inclusion plays a significant role in school textbooks, English pupils' books are designed for grades 3 to 11, and General English for (A/L), that are distributed as the sole primary resource by the government. Pronunciation is an essential skill to improve language competency. However, they often lack standardized activities and pronunciation teaching. Therefore, this study analyses the strengths and weaknesses of pronunciation activities in textbooks through own checklists based on the themes: explanation, materials, activities, evaluation, illustration, culture, varieties of English, and comprehensible input qualitatively. The textbook analysis is carried out for eight months in eight textbooks, excluding Grades 3 and G, C. E (A/L) textbook in which pronunciation is not emphasized, based on content analysis by identifying both primary and secondary textbooks carefully. Also, these activities are compared with the Teacher's Guide and internationally published books. These textbooks are embedded with some strengths and many weaknesses. Grade 3 and G.C.E. (A/L) textbooks are not embedded with pronunciation activities. Explanations are shallow and repetitive in primary grades whereas secondary grades do not consist the explanations and clues for teachers are inadequate and incorrect to some extent. Graphemes, mother tongue influences, homophones, homonyms, homographs, syllable-based reading, consonant clusters, representation of a certain letter to soft and hard sounds, intonation, and stress are neglected. In conclusion, the activities of textbooks are inadequate, inappropriate, and incorrect. Also, this study focuses on further inclusion for the future development of textbooks in terms of pronunciation and communicative skills by integrating technology in this changing world to focus on challenging areas, manipulate some strategies, and include more materials and supplementary materials.

Keywords: Analysis, Checklist, Pronunciation, Textbook activities, Themes.