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**USING COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY IN
WRITTEN LANGUAGE DISORDER
THERAPY**

ABSTRACT OF DOCTORAL THESIS

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KEY WORDS: computer assisted instruction, educational software, assistive technologies, written language disorders, orthograms, universal design for learning, learning disabilities, electronic lessons “Let’s write correct orthograms!”, resource teacher.

With the accelerated development of nowadays society, using information and communication technologies in schools has become a necessity. For many of us it is very difficult or even impossible to imagine a day without a computer. The school is constantly adapting and transforming to meet the society needs. Introducing information and communication technologies in education is absolutely necessary.

Learning the correct way of writing orthograms requires more work, many exercises and for students with learning difficulties the correct spelling of ortogramelor is a target very hard to be reached. The resource teacher plays an important role in achieving this goal through all activities he/she is involved in: partnership or resource room activities. Information technologies can be successfully used in achieving this target.

The purpose of this study was to investigate the impact of computer technology , especially the impact of an educational software designated for learning to write orthograms correctly with a special design for children in second and third grades diagnosed with learning disabilities.

The dissertation is organized in nine chapters, the first five chapters are dedicated to the theoretical framework, the next three chapters present the study conducted, and the last chapter presents the final conclusions of the dissertation.

The first chapter introduces the definition of concepts from the perspective of several authors, a brief history of development of computer assisted instruction from the first machine that recorded multiple choice answer invented by Sydney Pressy în 1924 , continuing with digital computer invented by John Vincent Atanasoff and Clifford Berry in 1939, then IBM microcomputers products at the beginning of 1960s. TICCIT and PLATO programs were among the first programs for education.

Classification of computer assisted instruction programs is presented using following criteria: the utility, pedagogical function, the discipline and by type of design used for their preparation.

Roblyer (2005) makes this classification of instructional software using pedagogical function criteria:

- Drill-and-practice software functions
- Tutorial software functions
- Simulation software functions
- Instructional game software functions

- Problem-solving software functions
- Integrated learning systems

The advantages and disadvantages of using computer-assisted learning and different global and national approaches for computer-assisted instruction are parts of this chapter. Dweyer (1994) brings in shows that the effective integration of communications technologies in learning process is possible when the teacher changes teaching strategies and move from teacher-centered activities to learning-centered activities. Waxman C, Meng-Fen Lin Georgette M. Michko (2003) explore the studies about the efficiency of computer technology in education and they concluded that the results of using computer technology in schools are great, students improved their achievements. Bialo and Sivin-Kachala (1996) study confirms that the students self esteem and their attitude towards learning, the motivation had improved when teachers are using computer technologies in teaching.

The most important software designated to improve writing for students with learning disabilities are: *Co:Writer 4000*, *Kurzweill 3000*, *Test Talker*, *Talking Word Processor*, *WYNN*, *Yak-Yak*, *Dragon Naturally Speaking*, *Clicker 5*, *Inspiration & Kidspiration*. In Romania for example, a multidisciplinary team from "Babeş-Bolyai" University has developed the educational software "Letters" Miclea, M., Mihalca L., Moşuţ L., Dohi, I. (2006). This is a very attractive and efficient instrument for learning letters.

Chapter 2 presents the computer assisted instruction in special education. Roberta Wiener (1987, p.18) said: "The potential for computers in special education is without limits. Computer technology can provide a voice for students with oral communication problems; serve as a writing medium for students who have difficulty manipulating a pencil; open the world of written communication for the blind; enable the deaf to communicate in a hearing classroom; and allow the physically disabled the opportunity to control their learning environment."

The prerequisite necessary for using computer assisted technologies in special education ad the characteristics of computer assisted instruction for children with special education are presented in the same chapter. The stages of developing computer assisted instruction in special education are presented also. It is absolute necessarily to define learning disabilities and to respect all the stages presented for an effective teaching process.

Chapter 3 is dedicated for children with learning disabilities inclusion. We define terms like integration/inclusion and we present the basic principle to promote inclusive education. Ghergut A. (2001, p.12) believes that integrated education "refers essentially to the integration in regular classes of children with special needs (children with sensory disabilities, physical impaired, intellectual or language disabilities, social disadvantaged -economical and cultural, health and child care centers, children with mild emotional and behavioral disorders, children infected with HIV, etc..) to provide a climate conducive to a balanced and harmonious development of their personality. "

Plosca M. și Moldovan A.M. (2011, p 21) present levels of integration in the school environment proposed by Vrășmaș:

- Spatial integration;
- Social integration;
- School integration;

School inclusion refers to the inclusion of school children with different disabilities in all school activities in which normal children are involved. This requires real involvement of schools and classes by adapting and changing to meet the needs of children with disabilities and focusing on recovery and assessment of each child's potential. This definition of inclusion does not mean that students with different disabilities will not receive outside expert assistance and training outside the classroom, but that it is one of many options available for students with disabilities and normal children. (Loreman and Deppeler 2001)

Plosca M. and Moldovan A.M. (2011, p 21) cites the definition of inclusive education made by the MEN and UNICEF (1999): "Inclusive education involves an ongoing process of improving the school as an institution, the principal aimed is exploiting existing resources, especially human resources to support participation of all students in education process within a community. "

European Agency for Development in Special Needs Education 2009 presents the key principles for promoting quality in inclusive education.

- Widening participation to increase educational opportunity for all learners;
- Education and training in inclusive education for all teachers;
- Organizational culture and ethos that promotes inclusion;
- Support structures organized so as to promote inclusion;
- Flexible resourcing systems that promote inclusion;
- Policies that promote inclusion;

- Legislation that promotes inclusion;

Universal Design for Learning and the importance of the resource teacher to support successful inclusion for children with learning disabilities are topics presented in this chapter. The Universal Design for Learning concept is defined by the Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST) in '90. Universal Design for Learning includes all methods, tools and teaching strategies that enable students to acquire skills, knowledge and motivates students to participate in learning activities. Hallahan and Kauffman (2006, p. 541) define the universal design for learning as “ a design new training programs that enable their use by a great number of potential users”.

The resource teacher diagnose children with special needs, creates individualized educational plans for each student with special needs, collaborates with all school teachers, other professionals and parents, mediate conflicts between students participates in extracurricular activities and develops or adapts methods and existing materials to the children's needs and possibilities.

Chapter 4 presents writing as a complex activity, the decoding of an additive message, a transformation of phonemes into graphemes using different instruments and the three writing systems: (1) pictographic writing, (2) syllabic writing, (3) alphabetic writing.

Orthography is defined by Şuteu F. (1981, p. 86) as „ a system of precise, fix, and unit rules consisting explaining the value of a of signs from a graphic system of reproduction of language, formulating conditions for the use of these signs, a system designed to generalize and to stabilize the cultivated version of the given language. The term “orthogram” is defined in the Explanatory Dictionary of Romanian Language as a model of correct language.

The first orthograms are introduced in first grade, but the teaching process of orthograms starts in second grade. When students begin to write correctly orthograms, it is assumed that they have mastered the correct spelling of letters, words and sentences. In the first phase writing orthograms does not require grammatical knowledge, it is not based on students' learning, it is based on learning specific rules (eg. We write "sau" when it can be replace with the word "or. ") and by presenting some examples.

Hyphens and diacritical marks are elements present in orthographic writing. We offer a model of writing skills development stages presented by Gentry (1982):

1. Pre-communicational stage;

2. Semi-phonetic stage;
3. Phonetic stage;
4. Transition stage;
5. Conventional writing stage;

Language disorders are defined by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (1993, p. 40) as a deficiency in understanding and/or verbal language, written language and/or another symbolic system. The deficit refers to:

- Language form (phonology, morphology and syntax);
- Content language (semantics);
- Communication function language (pragmatic);

Etiology of written language disorders is presented using the model proposed by Green (1983) and Ungureanu (1998).

Classification criteria for written language disorders are:

- a) The dominance of disturbed structures (Paunescu in Vrasmas 2007, p. 89);
- b) Stage appearance, form and evolution;

Green E. (1983) adopted the classification of dyslexo-disgraphic after Falinski and lists the following types of dysgraphia:

- a) agraphia - the inability to draw and write (tumor, brain injury);
- b) paragraphia - the child can write letters separately and not united;
- c) structural dysgraphia;
- d) dysortographia, when punctuation and spelling are not used;
- e) bad spelling;

Deuel (1994) classified dysgraphia into three subtypes:

- Dislexo-dysgraphia;
- Motor dysgraphia due to motor causes;
- Dysgraphia due to spatial perception deformity;

Roberts and Stodden (2005) cites Blalock (1981) which estimates that 80% - 90% of students diagnosed with learning disabilities experience difficulties in writing skills development. Many of the problems described can be eliminated using the computer in tasks that involve writing.

The table below presents a comparison of the necessary skills the students should have to write a letter when using different tools.

Table 1. *Comparative overview of necessary skills to write a letter with pen and paper and with a computer*

Necessary skills to write a letter with pen and paper	Necessary skills to write a letter with a keyboard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hold a pencil with three fingers with or without a suitable support. - To press with appropriate amount of pressure the writing tool to make graphic forms. - To achieve the correct finger coordination of large muscles and fine muscles of the other fingers. - To visualize the letter. - To remember the movement needed to write the letter. - To draw the letter. - To monitor the accuracy of motor commands for muscles to move with appropriate force and distance. - Respect the letter size. - To write the letter on a line. - To leave the space between the written letter and the next written letter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To move fingers independently; - To recognize the letter. - To locate the letter on the keyboard. - To press the corresponding keyboard with moderate pressure.

Written language disorders are diverse for children with learning disabilities. It is necessary to assess them carefully for an effective intervention to prevent and correct them.

Chapter 5 summarize the assistive technologies used for an efficient learning and practicing writing for students with learning disabilities. A legal, formal definition of access technologies was first published in Technology-Related

Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1988 in USA (The Tech Act). Access Technologies term means any item (item), equipment, product or system, whether it is purchased off the shelf, modified or adapted, which is used to maintain or improve functional capabilities of people with disabilities. This also includes any service that directly benefit a person with disabilities in the selection, acquisition or use of access technology. (IDEA 2004, PL 108-446).

In the recent years increased interest in using assistive technology for students with written disorders, particularly for pupils with learning difficulties. These technologies include word processors, spell checkers, word prediction, speech recognition and software that converts text to speech (Berninger & Amtmann, 2003 , MacArthur, 1996, 1999, 2000). These technologies are not designed to replace the teaching of writing as a process, but occur as a bridge to support the acquisition of writing skills especially for students who have writing difficulties.

Hetzroni and Shrieber (2004) continued Owston and Wideman's (1997) research argues that a comparative longitudinal study between two primary groups of students with and without access to word processing has demonstrated that students who had access to a word processor demonstrate significant increase in writing skills in following areas: meaning writing, quality of content, form of writing and writing organization.

Zhang's (2000) research demonstrate that the assistive technology provides students with learning disabilities the essential support to integrate in mainstream schools. Assistive technologies allow students with learning disabilities to attend general curriculum. They help the student to transform the written tasks in classic format in electronic format, allow detailing, organization and editing writing tasks and they motivate students to solve with pleasure writing tasks.

The same author believes that students with learning disabilities better focus on the structural development of ideas, sentences, phrases and paragraphs using assistive technologies. Using word processor technologies with other technologies provides students with learning disabilities the opportunity to practice writing skills the same way the other students without disabilities do.

Assistive technologies recommended to improve learning and practicing writing for students with learning disabilities are: word processors, portable word processors (eg AlphaSmart, Fusion, Quickpad), spell checkers, word prediction, computer pen, programs to correct the written text, speech recognition software, voice

synthesizers / text readers, alternative keyboards, electronic dictionaries and corrective "talking", electronic tablet, pencil grip and weights glove.

Teachers have to know the following characteristics so they can recommend the most appropriate assistive technologies:

1. each student abilities and needs;
2. curriculum objectives;
3. different ways of monitoring and evaluation the student progress;
4. the characteristics of assistive technologies;
5. the cost for the assistive technologies;

We presented some recommendations and challenges for students with learning disabilities using assistive technologies to improve learning and practicing writing.

Chapter 6 presents SIAC-V2.0 software, a lesson generator and a set of electronic lessons "Let's write correct orthograms!". The authors of SIAC V2.0 generator define this program as " an author software for the completion of learning lessons and / or evaluation may be conducted in a local area network.

The system is running under Windows 9x, 2000 and is composed of two main applications:

⇒ Generator Lessons - GEL;

⇒ Ongoing Environment – MED;

Using SIAC generator V2.0, the teacher can develop electronic lessons with the following tasks:

1. Questions with free answers;
2. Forms with free responses;
3. Answer questions orally;
4. Choice of zones;
5. Mark areas;
6. Form with offers;
7. Ordering images;
8. Game "Guess the word. "

One of the advantage of SIAC V2.0 is flexibility in lessons. It can be used to create electronic evaluation lessons regardless of curricula content, to structure

materials in a set of lessons, and to update the lessons, depending on student performance.

The electronic lessons are developed based on the principles of universal design for learning because:

- a) Provide multiple modes of representation;
- b) It offers multiple modes of expression;
- c) Provides multiple ways of participating.

The electronic lessons refer to the structure of content on topics using an educational software and electronic presentation of that content via the computer in teaching, or assessment process. Electronic lessons are more effective if they can adapt more easily to each student. There are lessons prepared by a group of specialists, that the teacher can use in class, but the teacher can not change or there are educational software that the teacher can use to develop their own electronic lessons depending on the subject, depending on grade level, according to each student needs and according to the teacher's teaching style.

Interactive electronic lessons can be used successfully in special education, if they are designed specifically for students with some type of deficiency or if they are customized to each pupil's needs. For example, students with autism respond more effectively to verbal stimulus, if the feedback contains the name of the student (ex. Good job, Alex!).

Using SIAC software, we developed two electronic evaluation lessons to assess orthograms and six learning lessons including orthograms for second and third grades, as follows:

- an evaluation lesson for second grade;
- an evaluation lesson for third grade;
- two learning / consolidation lessons for second grade;
- four learning / consolidation lessons for third grade;

Duration of a lesson does not exceed 10 minutes, regardless of the student's pace. We felt that at this age students should not spend too much time in front of the computer to avoid fatigue and boredom.

The steps we are going to present have been observed during the process of developing the electronic lessons "Let's write correct orthograms!"

1. Choosing the theme;

2. Establishing the exact beneficiaries that addresses these lessons;
3. Studying the school curriculum and textbooks;
4. Setting the goals;
5. Selection of content;
6. Choosing a feedback for a correct answer and for a wrong answer;
7. Organizing verbal and written material according to the degree of difficulty;
8. Ordering the steps of the electronic lesson;

Here are some advantages of the electronic lessons we created:

- They are reusable, can be run by one or more students whenever necessary;
- They are adaptable to different learning situations;
- They can easily be changed depending on the needs of each student;
- They allow monitoring and storing each student's results;
- We can copy them using a memory stick, CD or even stored and sent through the Internet;
- The main advantage of these electronic lessons is that students like them and they are motivated to solve all tasks in a very short time;
- They can be used freely by all teachers in teaching orthograms;

The seventh chapter covers the research methodology: motivation, objectives and hypothesis of the study, description of participants, instruments and procedure of this study.

I was motivated to create an effective tool came when I worked as a speech therapist and I diagnosed students who have many difficulties in writing orthograms in primary school. Later, as a resource teacher I faced the same problem. I tried to look for ways and means for effective teaching and I realized that the best way would be teaching computer assisted instruction system SIAC V2-0, which I've used a few years ago when I developed interactive electronic lessons for children in preschool for my graduation and dissertation thesis.

Objectives

This study covers the following objectives:

1. To develop an educational software for second and third grade, including all the orthograms from the curriculum;

2. To assess the effectiveness of educational software for students diagnosed with learning disabilities included in the resource program, students who have difficulty in writing correct orthograms.

Hypothesis

1. There are significant statistical differences in errors writing orthograms pretest and post-test by group received training via computer.
2. Solving tasks through a classical training (paper and pencil) determines a significant statistical reduction in errors writing orthograms by students.
3. There are statistically significant differences in terms of progress in writing orthograms by the group who received training via computer and the group that solved the same tasks in classical paper and pencil format.

Participants:

The group of participants is composed of 50 students second and third grades included in the resource program from the following schools: Școala *Constantin Brâncoveanu*, Școala *Liviu Rebreanu*, Școala *Eugen Pora* and Școala *Ion Creangă* from Cluj -Napoca, as follows:

Table 2. *Participants in this study*

Group	Grade	Sex		Total
		Masculine	Feminine	
Group of participants who receive training through the computer	a II-a	7	1	8
	a III-a	13	5	18
Group of participants who complete the tasks in classic format "paper and pencil. "	a II-a	5	2	7
	a III-a	13	4	17

A. Dictation

Sample dictation texts were designed to identify participants from second and third grades included in the resource program who have difficulty writing orthograms.

B. Questionnaire for students

The questionnaire for students consists personal data, questions about their interest and experience using computers, educational software and Internet.

C. Questionnaire for teachers

The questionnaire for teachers consists personal data, questions about their interest and experience using computers, educational software and Internet.

D. Educational software "Let's write correct orthograms!" was designed specifically for students with learning difficulties who have difficulty writing orthograms.

Intervention

At the end of April 2009-2010, when all the orthograms have been taught, the dictation test was applied to students in second and third grades included in the resource program from four schools in Cluj-Napoca. The same person applied dictation test to all participants.

Before informing teachers and resource teachers in mainstream schools, the directors consent was obtained from the schools involved in this research.

The group of participants were established by drawing: group of participants who receive training through the computer and the group of participants who complete the tasks in classic format "paper and pencil."

Questionnaires were applied to all enrolled participants at the first meeting when the groups were formed. The first week we identified participants in this study based on their dictation results.

The second week, the group that received computer training has done electronic testing lesson. The same tasks were solved by the group of participants who performed the tasks in a classic format "paper and pencil."

Once a week, the group included participants who received computer training have gone through an e-learning lesson, and finally a test lesson. The same tasks have been resolved by the group of participants who solved the tasks using "paper and pencil" format. Participants in second grade have completed two learning lessons in two weeks, following a testing lesson next week. Participants in third grade completed four learning lessons in four weeks, and in last week's lesson covered the test lesson.

Table 3. presents the schedule for this study.

Table 3. *The schedule for this study*

NR. CRT.	DATE	ACTIVITY
1.	12.04.2010-16.04.2010	-principles of schools were informed about the purpose of this study and they signed the agreement; -resource teacher were informed about this study;
2.	19.04.2010-23.04.2010	-dictation test was applied to students in second and third grades included in the resource program in four schools in the area of Cluj-Napoca; -the groups of participants were established by drawing: group of participants who receive training through the computer and the group of participants who receive training in classic format "paper and pencil;
3.	26.04.2010 - 30.04.2010	-all participants have completed the evaluation lesson; -questionnaires were applied to all participants;
4.	3.05.2010 - 7.05.2010	-all participants have completed the first learning lesson;
5.	10.05.2010 - 14.05.2010	-all participants have completed the second learning lesson;
6.	17.05.2010 - 21.05.2010	-students in second grade have completed the evaluation lesson; -students in third grade have completed the third learning lesson;
7.	24.05.2010 - 28.05.2010	-students in third grade have completed the fourth learning lesson;
8.	31.05.2010 - 4.06.2010	-students in third grade have completed the evaluation lesson;
9.	27.10.2010	-questionnaires were applied to resource teachers;

The eighth chapter presents the results analysis based on numerical data from the pretest and post-test.

a) Interpretation of results for students questionnaires

Although all schools are equipped with computers, only 32% of students stated that they use computers in school at least once a week. Students may have access to the computer not only during the resource hours, but also during school hours. This is probably due to the low interest of teachers in information and communications technologies. The fact that 72% like typing, can be use in the

Romanian language and literature classes, when developing different projects or during the resource classes. If lessons are presented as games, students will certainly be happy to participate in solving tasks in electronic format, because a percentage of 92% like to play different games on the computer.

88% of students say they have a computer at home, so electronic lessons developed by teachers can be taken by students at home or can be done several projects involving the computer writing.

We believe that students should interact more with computers at school under the supervision of teachers, because 51% of students surveyed believe that they would like more in school if teachers would use the computer more often, and 74% agree they can learn many things using a computer.

b) Interpretation of the results for resource teachers questionnaires

Most teachers have a computer and Internet connection at home, but that there are a large number of resource classrooms are not equipped with computers and a large number of computers in the resource classrooms are not connected to the Internet. There is a lack of educational software in Romanian language for students with special needs.

100% resource teachers consider that the use of computers in education instructor is beneficial and 86% of participants in this study say they want to develop electronic lessons designed for students with special needs. We consider that it is essential to develop lesson generators that enable teachers to develop their own electronic lessons for their students.

We find that all teachers with support in education between 11-15 years old want to develop electronic lessons designed for students with special needs, and providing them with “lesson generators” would allow them to achieve the diversification in the instructional process for the benefit of students with special needs.

They is also required training of teachers in information technology support, and 76% of teachers surveyed agree to participate in these courses.

It is absolutely necessary to provide all the resource classrooms with computers and Internet connections because a percentage shows that 34% of teachers do not have a computer in the resource classroom, and an even higher percentage, 52% had no internet connection. To provide the equipment is the first step in using computer-assisted instruction in resource classrooms.

Resource teachers spend more time on the computer to create work sheets - 46.9% , to maintain records of school - 45.8% and 30.4% say they do not use the PowerPoint application. 51.1% of respondents are using the Internet more than 5 hours per week, while 43.8% say they use the Internet that more than 5 hours per week to find information for their lessons.

After applying this survey reveals that most resource teachers have knowledge of computer using and many teachers want to participate in training courses in information technology and communications. Using computer-assisted learning is not performed routinely in the resource classes because some of the resource classrooms are not equipped with computers and educational software for special needs students.

c) Data analysis pretest and post-test

Data analysis cover the results obtained by browsing or using the teaching method using computer parallel with traditional paper and pencil, two groups of students from different classes, second and third grade. We have the following groups:

- Groups that have received training via computer: the group of students in second grade and the group of students in third grade;
- Groups that have received classical training (paper and pencil): the group of students in grade II and group of students in grade III;

Numerical quantitative data obtained were statistically processed in tables, graphs, charts and data processed using SPSS.

It was found that the when using interactive computerized lessons, there is a statistically significant reduction in errors made by students in second and third grades included in resource program who have difficulty writing correct orthograms. The first hypothesis formulated is confirmed.

In second grade, the group that received classical training (paper and pencil) did not achieve a statistically significant reduction in errors writing orthograms, but in third grade, the group that received traditional training (paper and pencil) achieves a statistically significant decrease in errors writing ortograms. Second hypothesis is confirmed only for third grade students.

The third hypothesis is confirmed also. There are statistically significant differences in terms of progress in writing orthograms by the group who received training via computer and the group who solved the same tasks in classic paper and pencil format.

The ninth chapter presents the final conclusions of this study.

The results obtained in this paper reinforce the claims of researchers Goldberg, A., Russell, M., & Cook, A. (2003) found that students who use computers in teaching writing skills show a standard deviation better .4 than students who use only a pencil-paper writing skills training.

From investigations made by us to students in second and third grades students, diagnosed with learning disabilities who have difficulty writing orthograms, we can say that is highly statistically significant differences between the group of students who received training using the computer and the group of students who received training using traditional methods. Students who have received training using the computer achieved a statistically significant reduction of errors in tasks of writing correct orthograms, compared with students who received only traditional training method using "paper and pencil."

The results of this study allow an overall view of performance of students with learning difficulties who have benefited from training with a computer and performance achieved by students who have received training using the classic "paper and pencil" method to learn writing correct orthograms. Performance evaluation results may be a motivator for resource teachers and other teachers in developing new interactive electronic lessons.

It requires teacher training in designing electronic lessons, computer assisted training courses for initial and continuing training. It is also necessary to promote educational software at conferences and national and international symposia or creating web pages.

All the people in the educational field should be aware that the integration of computer assisted instruction in the educational process of students with learning disabilities is a necessity. It is absolutely necessary to develop educational software such as "lesson generators" easy to use by all the teachers, so they can develop their own electronic lessons depending on the particularities of the group of pupils or a single student.

To exploit the potential of each student with special needs we need to use proper assessment and to develop an individualized education plan that includes the use of assistive technologies and computer assisted instruction respecting the particularities and needs of each student with special needs. Computer assisted instruction and assistive technologies do not exclude traditional teaching methods, but

only complete them to make the whole process of learning to adapt to the needs of students with special needs.

Study value

This study is among the few studies that address issues of using computer technologies in the educational process of students with learning disabilities included in the resource program in Romania. The results may be useful to resource teachers developing individual educational plans for students with learning disabilities, organizing and structuring their lessons.

An original contribution of the thesis is the development of the electronic lessons "Let's write correct orthograms!" for second and third grade diagnosed with learning disabilities enrolled in the resource program.

By providing all teachers with free electronic classroom "Let's write correct orthograms!" we believe that more students will benefit from the advantages of this lessons. We hope that more resource teachers will continue to develop electronic and interactive lessons in other areas.

Study limits

1. This study is limited due to the low number of participants and their characteristics;
2. Profile of participants from urban areas is different from the profile of participants in rural areas and we can not make a national generalization.

New research directions

Because written language disorders in children diagnosed with learning disabilities are varied, we believe that creating new electronic lessons covering other aspects of writing (punctuation, writing with a capital letter, writing with two "i") can be useful in written language disorders therapy.

This study aim was to assess the effectiveness of the use of electronic lessons orthograms process of assimilation of class II and III for students diagnosed with learning difficulties. We propose the development of electronic lessons for the same category of students for other grades and for other disciplines (mathematics, social studies, etc.).

Samples of dictation we used to select participants for this study can be used in testing orthograms in second and third grade, but it is necessary to develop standardized and validated tests to diagnose written language disorders for Romanian language.

It is necessary to make more studies in special education field and using computer assisted instruction in educational process, both in urban and rural areas.

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