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Intrusive r in L2 English of Native Japanese Speaker: Analysis and Comparison with British Vernacular

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TITLE

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RELEVANT SIG

Learner Development

FORMAT

Research-oriented Oral Face-to-face presentation (25 minutes, including Q&A)

Short English description

KEYWORDS

intrusive r, hypercorrection, English as a second language (L2 English)

First-time presenter?

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ABSTRACT

This research investigates an overwhelming frequency of the unnecessary sound of /ɹ/ in rather fluent L2 English learners of native Japanese speakers that has not been researched. It is called 'Intrusive r,' which means the /ɹ/ emerges where the /ɹ/ is not spelled out in words, such as 'idea(r).' We collected 114 of the two to three-minute recordings of a short story from native Japanese speakers above eighteen. Within the data of their English L2 utterances, this research will first analyze how and where the 'intrusive r' is pronounced using 'Praat (Boersma & Weenink, 2007),' which analyses the sound of speech. Secondly, we hypothesize and examine closely whether it is unconscious hypercorrection that is the influence of the sound system of the mother tongue that /ɹ/ is generally recognized as an inadequate skill, so it is overly often pronounced. If not, it would be a genuine occurrence with the same rule as vernacular British English that does have intrusive r in some rural areas (Tuinman et al., 2011; Crystal, 2002; Broadbent, 1991; Gimson, 1980). We will investigate

these two hypotheses, and the result will contribute to the fluency in L2 English of native Japanese speakers.

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