Serif vs. Sans Serif: How typeface affects L2 learners’ willingness to read

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Abstract

This paper examines how the typeface used in the reading materials affects L2 learners’ willingness to read. Tanaka et al. (2007) revealed that L2 learners perceive texts written in Serif fonts as being more difficult than ones written in San Serif fonts. The present study further extends their research and investigates two issues: 1) how typeface affects learners’ willingness to read; and 2) if the effects of typeface differ between L1 and L2.