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No words are needed to be uttered or heard by a lone and solitary person like Robinson Crusoe. They are needed by the human beings when they get together in the society. Language is the product of variegated interactions of man in society. Man, being at the summit of the evolutionary scale, uses language in spoken and print forms. In order to express one's feelings, beliefs or opinions, he can handle these two valuable media of communication.

Inspite of reading materials available for receiving information, the importance of listening, according to Rankin's study, was preponderant using 42 percent of the elementary school time. In fact there is a close correlation between reading and listening comprehension. Caffrey reports that correlations are high and range from 0.62 to 0.92. The implication of this research is that the training in one domain will improve the other domain also. The direct teaching of how to listen has been ignored on the false notion that it is an innate ability. The listening skill, like reading skill is not innate but it is to be acquired. Stated precisely, the pupils who devote a fair amount of their school time to listening without the training of listening skill, lose much of the grip over reading ability and over the spoken content matter. Hence it was thought worthwhile to go for the unexplored field of listening in India and to make available a standardized test of listening comprehension for the pupils of std. V, VI and VII.

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DHULETI

[P.V. SADHU]