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Expiration Training System for Treatment of People with Speech Problems

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For a speech therapist, the breathing method is one important technique for training people with speaking difficulties. In the past, a trainer used the so-called "blowing technique" or "breathing play" for speech-related expiration training. However, insufficient numbers of therapists make it difficult to widely apply these breath-training methods, and the development of new breath training methods has become mandatory. Therefore, a new training system, in which the expiration pattern of a speech therapist is analyzed using an airflow sensor and converted into a graphic visual image to facilitate the easy recognition of expiration patterns, was developed. Experimentally, using this system with nonhandicapped trainees demonstrated that such trainees could successfully and easily imitate the trainer's pronunciation. It is suggested that people with speech problems would be able to easily learn appropriate speech-related expiration patterns by using the visual patterns produced by this system.

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