ABSTRACT

National Examination is a tool to measure whether students in the 3rd grade can pass High School level or not. The students in the 3rd grade should be prepared to face the real-world such as college and works, so the materials should not only focus on the goal of syllabus but also the authenticity of the task. For that reason, English National Examination should be authentic to prepare the students to face the real-world. The aim of this study is to answer the research question: “How authentic is the 2015 High School English National Examination?” as perceived by the English teachers. The study was analyzed descriptively based on the data found. The study began with interviewing 3 teachers from three different schools. The data were described separately between the listening section and the reading section. There are 4 characteristics of authentic materials in the listening section: natural language, meaningful messages, non-linguistic clues and real-life text-type of oral materials. There are 3 characteristics of authentic materials in the reading section such as meaningful messages, non-linguistics clues and real-life text-type of written materials. Most of the materials in the High School English National Examination fulfill those characteristics of authentic materials both in the listening section and the reading section. Consequently, the High School English National Examination can be said to be highly authentic.

Keywords: High School English National Examination, Authenticity