

## **The Latent Model of Linguistic Features in Korean College Students' L2 Argumentative Writings: Syntactic Complexity, Lexical Complexity, and Fluency**

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**Abstract :** This study explores a range of linguistic features used in Korean college students' argumentative writings for the purpose of developing a model that identifies variables which predict writing proficiencies. This study investigated the latent variable structure of L2 linguistic features, including syntactic complexity, the lexical complexity, and fluency. One hundred forty-six university students in Korea participated in this study. The results of the study's confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) showed that indicators of linguistic features from this study-provided a foundation for re-categorizing indicators found in extant research on L2 Korean writers depending on each latent variable of linguistic features. The CFA models indicated one measurement model of L2 syntactic complexity and L2 learners' writing proficiency; these two latent factors were correlated with each other. Based on the overall findings of the study, integrated linguistic features of L2 writings suggested some pedagogical implications in L2 writing instructions.

**Keywords :** linguistic features, syntactic complexity, lexical complexity, fluency

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