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ADULT ILLITERACY:

A SURVEY OF THE MATERIAL AND TEACHING PREFERENCES OF LOCAL TUTORS

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I A Preta

Robert Sein

ADULT ILLITERACY:

A SURVEY OF THE MATERIAL AND TEACHING PREFERENCES OF LOCAL TUTORS

by

MARY MARGARET BYROM, B.S.

RESEARCH PROJECT REPORT

Presented to the Graduate Faculty of Education

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

in Partial Fulfillment

of Requirements for the Degree of

MASTER OF ARTS

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Abstract

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An overview of adult illiteracy in the United States from an historical and current perspective is presented. Regarding current efforts at improving reading ability, a study was conducted of local tutors whose names were supplied by the Midland Need to Read program. A survey form was used to indicate 1) the experience level of the tutor, 2) the preference of tutors as to the ability of students they preferred to instruct, 3) the reading series they found most effective, and 4) interesting and effective supplemental materials. Findings indicate that tutors with prior teaching experience have more confidence in instructing students with wider ranges of reading level ability and use supplemental materials to a greater advantage.