Second Language Acquisition

SeBEN09z12

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week 3 – chapter 3

What is the difference between multilingualism and plurilingualism according to the CEFR?

- CEFR: plurilingualism = linguistic competence of an individual
- CEFR: multilingualism = linguistic diversity of geographical regions

What is the mythical bilingual?

" do everything perfectly in two languages and who can pass undetected among monolingual speakers of each of these two languages. "

Valdés 2001:40

What is a heritage language?

" which was first for an individual with respect to the order of acquisition but has not been completely acquired because of the switch to another dominant language. An individual may use the heritage language under certain conditions and understand it, but his/her primary language is a different one. "

Polinsky 2008:1



Explain the following model of bilingualism:

	A Ab	Ab Ab	Ab	Ab aB Ba Ba Ba Ba Ba	В
Monolingual					Monolingual

Valdes 2001



Explain the following model of a bilingual's language mode:

Language A

(base language)



What is Chomsky's LAD?



Noam Chomsky

- Innatist Theory
- The Language Acquisition
 Device (LAD)
- Children have an innate knowledge of the basic grammatical structure that is the basis to all languages
- The Universal Grammar (UG)
- The Critical Period essential for first language acquisition



Explain the following cartoon:



Chapter 3 Second and foreign language data

reading homework 1

• questions about homework 3 ?



- types of data
- types of data elicitation
- SLA data often do not prompt one correct answer or interpretation
- *past tense* debate !

- Drosophila melanogaster
- perhaps most important model organisms in scientific research
- irregular verbs are the fruit flies of linguistics





patterns	vowel changes	infinitive	past tense	participle
English				
a-b-a	[A] - [eI] - [A]	come	came	come
a-b-b	[i:] - [ε] - [ε]	meet	met	met
a-b-b + - <i>en</i>	[i:] - [əʊ] - [əʊ]	speak	spoke	spoken
a-b-c	[I] - [æ] - [A]	sing	sang	sung
no-change	[A] - [A] - [A]	cut	cut	cut
no-change + <i>-en</i>	[i:] - [i:] - [i:]	beat	beat	beaten
dental suffix	[3] - [3] - [3]	burn	burnt	burnt
suppletion	[a] - [3] - [ŭ6]	<i>go</i>	went	gone
German				
a-b-a	[a] - [i:] - [a]	fallen	fiel	gefallen
a-b-b	[aɪ] - [i:] - [i:]	bleiben	blieb	geblieben
a-b-c	[I] - [a] - [ʊ]	singen	sang	gesungen
mixed verbs	[ε] - [Λ] - [Λ]	brennen	brannte	gebrannt
suppletion	[aɪ] - [a:] - [e:]	sein	war	gewesen





Figure 1: The dual-route model for verb inflection



Figure 1 Birdiness rankings

(7)	prototypical stem vowels	(a)	

prototypical schemas

(a) [i:, I]
(b) [e:, ε]
(c) [aI]
(d) [# _ aI _ p/b]
(e) [# _ aI _ d/t]
(f) [# _ aI _ f/v]
(g) [# _ i _ ŋ(k)]



			instance based memory			
	sing	V	S	I	ŋ	æ-ablaut
learning	spin	V	sC	I	n	∧-ablaut
component	string	V	sCC	Ι	ŋ	∧-ablaut
	run	V	С	Δ	n	æ-ablaut
	blink	V	CC	I	ŋk	regular
	I 					
· · · ·	1		nearest neighbours			
input:	drink	V	CC	I	ŋk	æ-ablaut
plink	sing	V	s	I	ŋ	æ-ablaut
<u>⊢</u>	string	V	sCC	I	ŋ	∧-ablaut
	plink	V	CC	I	ŋk	?
performance						
component	component output: assign [æ]-ablaut and thus create [plæŋk]					

(10) (a) $\emptyset \rightarrow d / [\operatorname{sam}_{-}] [+past]$ word-specific rule for sign $\emptyset \rightarrow d / [k = nsam] [+past]$ word-specific rule consign $\emptyset \rightarrow d / [X]$ + strident + continuant] [+past] general rule - voice (b) $\emptyset \rightarrow \partial d / [v \partial u t_{-}] [+past]$ word-specific rule for vote $\emptyset \rightarrow \partial d / [ni:d_] [+past]$ word-specific rule for need $\emptyset \rightarrow d / [X]$ + coronal + anterior - nasal - continuant



After almost 40 years we don't know how regular and irregular verbs are organised in our mental lexicon !

- (1) Data from 3 adult Arabic learners of English (intermediate advanced).
 - a) I bought **a couple of towel**.
 - b) There is **many kind of way** you make baklawa.
 - c) I go to university **four days** a week.
 - d) Just **a few month** he will finish from his studies.
 - e) Egypt shares **its boundaries** with the Mediterranean.
 - f) There is a lot of mosquito.
 - g) He can spend **100 years** here in America.
 - h) There are about **one and half-million inhabitant** in Jeddah.
 - i) How many month or years have been in his mind?

- (1) Data from 3 adult Arabic learners of English (intermediate advanced).
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- how can you describe the plural acquisition in these speakers?
- which sentences illustrate mastered grammar ?

Table 3.3 Possible categorization of plurals in Arabic–English IL

Engli	ish-like	Non-English-like	Ambiguous
3-1.	two deserts	3-2. a couple of towel	3-14. how many month or years
3-5.	the streets, the avenues	3-3. how many ticket	month of years

(1) How many month or years have been in his mind?

- just wrong ?
- analysis using target categories on second language data
- comparative fallacy

Bley-Vroman 1983

- the role of quantifiers
- interlanguage algorithm ?

• what data would you for further testing ?

this is how research works

Adam: observation \rightarrow curiosity \rightarrow research question \rightarrow hypothesis \rightarrow data collection \rightarrow analysis & interpretation \rightarrow theory \rightarrow publication \rightarrow limits & further research

Bob: limits & further research \rightarrow new data collection \rightarrow new analysis & interpretation \rightarrow theory refinement or new model \rightarrow publication \rightarrow limits & further research

Claire: limits & further research \rightarrow new data collection \rightarrow

- what data would you collect for further testing
- written vs spoken data
- natural (spontaneous) vs elicited data
- experimental versus field research
- competence versus performance
- case studies versus pooled data
- large samples
- [...]

- (2) Natural data from 1 adult Arabic learner of English (beginner).
 - a) He's sleeping.
 - b) She's sleeping.
 - c) It's raining.
 - d) He's eating.
 - e) Hani's sleeping.
 - f) The dog eating.
 - g) Hani **watch** TV.
 - h) Watch TV.
 - i) **Read** the paper.
 - **j**) **Drink** the coffee.

how could you describe the learner's algorithm for progressive use in English?

(The dog is eating.)(Hani is watching TV.)(He is watching TV.)(He is reading the paper.)(He is drinking coffee.)

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(The dog is eating.)(Hani is watching TV.)(He is watching TV.)(He is reading the paper.)(He is drinking coffee.)

- •verb > verb^{progr}· / #
- restricts use of -ing in sentence final position

- (2) Natural data from 1 adult Arabic learner of English (beginner).
 - a) He's sleeping. V^{intr.}
 - b) She's sleeping. V^{intr.}
 - c) It's raining. V^{intr.}
 - d) He's eating.
 - e) Hani's sleeping. V^{intr.}
 - f) The dog eating.
 - g) Hani watch TV.
 - h) Watch TV.
 - i) Read the paper.
 - j) Drink the coffee.

(The dog is eating.)(Hani is watching TV.)(He is watching TV.)(He is reading the paper.)(He is drinking coffee.)

• verb^{intrans}. \rightarrow verb^{progr}.

• progressive is only used with intransitive verbs
(3) Natural data from 1 adult Arabic learner of English (beginner).

- a) You can find it from Morocco **til** Saudi Arabia.
- b) There is many **kind of way** you make baklawa.
- c) It's **some kind of** different.
- d) I don't like to buy a car **from** Ann Arbor.
- e) Since long time, I'm buying B. F. Goodrich.
- f) He finished his studies **before one month**.
- g) He will finish **from** his studies.
- h) They are many kinds of reptiles which live **at** this planet.
- i) I never help my mom **in** the housework.

from Morocco to Saudi Arabia
There are many ways
It is quite different
in Ann Arbor
for a long time
a month ago
finish his studies
on this planet
with the housework

• how can you characterise the acquisition of preposition?

Questions ?

various methods

- Ellis & Barkhuizen 2005
- Gass & Mackey 2007
- Dörnyei 2003
- Duff 2008
- Markee 2000

methods to gain language data

- method depends on the research question asked
- methods depend on the hypotheses and their operationalising
- methods depend on the attempt to generalise
 - instructed vs naturalistic data
 - observational versus elicited (controlled, manipulated)
 - longitudinal versus cross-sectional data
 - case studies versus samples (pooled data)
 - experimental data (control group design)
 - quantitative versus qualitative data
 - verbal reports recalls & thinking-aloud-protocols

competence

performance

(5) A learner of Spanish working on a crossword puzzle

Vertical now ... 2 down, OK I have an *o* here but I don't know why because in 1 across I have *se morio* but I guess it has to be *murio* because 2 down has to be *un* [changes o to *u*] ... OK I have to but it must be *tu* so it means that 7 across for the past tense of *dormirse* must be *durmio* instead of *dormio* [changes o to u] ... OK third person plural form of the verb *pedir* they asked for, 5 down ... *pedieron* [pause] OK I am wondering whether because I have *pidieron* [spells out] and I am thinking it should be *pe*- but that would make it *dormeo* with an *e* instead of *i*, ... I guess I will see how the other ones go and take a look at that one again ...

- classical approaches
 - recorded speech samples
 - recorded language tasks
 - written questionnaires
 - interviews and diaries
 - written language tasks
 - rating and judging experiments (intuitional data)

- recent approaches
 - reaction time experiments, lexical decision
 - eye-tracking experiments
 - priming experiments
 - brain imaging (fMRI)
 - EEG (electroencephalogram)
 - computer modelling

• Eye tracking









Break

• priming

 Participants had to decide as fast and as accurately as possible (a) in the phonological word induction task, whether the word began or ended with a vowel or started and ended with a consonant, and (b) in the semantic induction task, whether the word named a living or non-living object. As soon as the response to the induction task was given, a random letter string (forward mask) consisting of 10 capital letters was presented for 200 ms (response prime interval, RPI). The random letter string was followed by the prime word, which was shown for 33.5 ms. After prime presentation, another random letter string was presented for 33.5 ms, which served as a backward mask. Thereafter, the target stimulus that either formed a real word or a pronounceable pseudoword was displayed. Participants had to decide as fast and as accurately as possible whether or not the target was a real word



N400 is a response to semantically unexpected words

P600 is a response to grammatical violations

• fMRI



A Verb repetition enhancement (repeated > not repeated)



B Interaction Verb Repetition x Day



Verb Repetition Effect Day 9



C Interaction Verb x Syntax Repetition



- Experiment 1
- Say the following word out loud:

SILK

• No say it quickly 5 times:

SILK SILK SILK SILK SILK

• No say it quickly 5 more times:

SILK SILK SILK SILK SILK

• What does the cow drink?



- Did anybody say *milk* ?
- if *silk* primes *milk*, what does this suggest about the mental lexicon ?

• Experiment 2



man

dog

cat

dog

- Experiment 2
- what does this say about the mental lexicon ?
- are reaction times shorter for words that are semantically related?
- how about bilinguals ?
- how about collocations ?

(5) Acceptability judgements from 139 L2 learners (Gass & Ard 1984).

- a) John is traveling to New York tomorrow.
- b) John is seeing better now.
- a) The ship sailed to Miami tomorrow.
- b) The ship is sailing to Miami tomorrow.
- c) The ship will sail to Miami tomorrow.
- d) The ship sails to Miami tomorrow.
- e) The ship has sailed to Miami tomorrow.

- acceptability ranking of English progressive use in L2
 - present
 John is smoking American cigarettes now
 - futurity John is traveling to New York tomorrow
 - verbs of perception Dan is seeing better now
 - other verbs The new bridge is connecting ...
 - copula
 *Mary is being in Chicago now

methods to gain non-linguistic data

- Individual differences cognitive & affective
 - language aptitude
 - motivation
 - attitude
 - anxiety
 - willingness to communicate
 - age(s)
 - sex
 - working memory
 - personality
 - learning styles
 - learning strategies
 - *big five* human personality traits

standardised language testing

- TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)
- Cambridge Tests
- Oxford English Placement Test
- [...]
- Matura Neu
- Bildungsstandards E4 & E8

Data analysis

- how can we measure acquisition ?
- is it all about counting mistakes ?
- are there scales to measure SLA increase ?
- how can we generalise if ILs are unique creations ?
- how can we measure without a common starting point ?
- what is actually progress in the four skills ?
- what do we do with conflicting results?
- [...]

(6) Natural data from a Laos learner of English for the acquisition of the article (Huebner 1979).



- What does the graph tell us ?
- What does the graph not tell us ?

• when is grammar (a morpheme) acquired ?

(6) She is dancing

- correct form = 2 she's dancing
- morpheme malformation = 1 *she's dances*
- lack of morpheme = 0 *she dance*

number of correct suppliance $\times 2$ + number of misformations

total obligatory contexts × 2

number of correct suppliance in obligatory contexts number of obligatory contexts + number of suppliance in nonobligatory contexts

	Instruction only			Naturalistic			Mixed		
Morpheme	SOC	TLU	Diff.	SOC	TLU	Diff.	SOC	TLU	Diff.
Progressive <i>-ing</i> Plural <i>-s</i> Singular copular Progressive auxiliary Past irregular Past regular Third person singular	97 93 95 85 75 51 63	69 85 89 59 66 47 52	-28 -8 -6 -26 -9 -4 -11	94 74 92 76 68 58 25	87 72 88 71 65 58 22	-7 -2 -4 -5 -3 0 -3	98 74 97 66 73 44 22	74 71 94 52 64 44 19	-24 -3 -14 -9 0 -3
- when is grammar (a morpheme) acquired?
- Pienemann & Keßler 2006
- Profilanalyse

• how are data analysed ?

• qualitative methods

• quantitative methods

• qualitative methods



Research Methods in Second Language Acquisition A Practical Guide

Edited by Alison Mackey and Susan M. Gass







- Philip Mayring
- Professor für Pädagogische Psychologie an der PH Ludwigsburg
- Professor für angewandte Psychologie und Methodenforschung in Klagenfurt

• qualitative methods



• qualitative methods



quantitative methods









truthfacts.com



• Mixed methods





Mixed methods





Research Project

VARIATE 2|3

A Study into the Potential of Variation Theory in EFL Teaching and Learning at Secondary and Tertiary Level

TIMEFRAME October 2015 – September 2018

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR Harald Spann University College of Education Upper Austria Institute of Secondary School Education Department of English

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Variation Theory and SLA contexts Variation Theory and foreign language teaching and learning at tertiary level Variation Theory and the teaching of English-language literature Variation Theory and competence-oriented teaching in English at secondary level

Questions ?

practice tasks

- discuss pros and cons of longitudinal and cross-sectional studies
- discuss the relationship between research question and methodology
- devise a project in which you want to examine the 3rd person –s acquisition in Austrian post-primary school second graders
- devise a project in which you want to examine the dative alternation L1 and L2 English speakers at C1 level

final exam topics

Chapter 3 – Second and foreign language data

- comparative fallacy
- types of data
- methods of data collection
- classical and recent approaches
- individual differences (cognitive & affective)

homework 3

- read chapter 4 & 5, pp. 89-155
- try to understand
 - the role of behaviourism
 - the Contrastive Analysis Hypothesis
 - the role of error analysis
 - the role of the morpheme order studies
 - interlanguage transfer