

Typical and a-typical acquisition of syntax

רכישה טיפוסית וא-טיפוסית של תחביר

Course number: 132.1.0280+132-1-2807

Course slot: Annual, Tuesday 12:00-14:00

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Office hours: Tuesday, ????

Course description & objectives: The course deals with certain aspects of the acquisition of syntax in first language. In the first part of the seminar we will focus on the explanations proposed in the Generative framework for the production and comprehension of relative clauses by typically developing children. In the second part we will compare typical acquisition of relative clauses with their acquisition by hearing-impaired children, children with SLI, and individuals with Broca's aphasia.

Course requirements:

Attendance is obligatory

Grade

5-6 assignments P/F – 20%

Presentation of an article (can be done in pairs) – 20%

Final (graded) assignment – 60%

Passing the final assignment (passing grade: 60) is obligatory for passing the course.

Topics

0. Introduction: Language acquisition in the Generative model; Derivation of relative clauses

I. Production of relative clauses: Labelle 1990

II. Production of relative clauses: Guasti and Shlonsky 1995

III. Production of relative clauses: Perez-Leroux 1995

IV. Comprehension of relative clauses

V. Relative clauses in the acquisition of Hebrew: Production and comprehension

VI. A-typical acquisition of relative clauses

Bibliography (obligatory – bold, and optional)

Crain, S. 1991. "Language acquisition in the absence of experience." *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 14:597-650 (reprinted in *Language Acquisition*, P. Bloom (ed.)).

Production

Armon-Lotem, S., I. Botwinik-Rotem & S. Birka. 2007. "The acquisition of relative clauses in Hebrew: prepositions and resumptive pronouns", in A. Belletti, ed., *Language Acquisition and Development. Proceedings of GALA2005*, Cambridge Scholars Press/CSP.

Botwinik, I., R. Bshara, & S. Armon-Lotem. 2015. "Children's production of relative clauses in Palestinian Arabic: (Unique) errors and their (movement) account." *Lingua*, 156, 40-56.

Goodluck, H. & D. Stojanovic. 1996. "The structure and acquisition of relative clauses in Serbo-Croatian", *Language Acquisition* 5: 285-315.

Grolla, E. 2005. "Resumptive pronouns as last resort: implications for language acquisition", *Penn Working Papers in Linguistics 1, Proceedings of the 28th annual Penn Colloquium*, T. Arunachalan, T. Scheffler, S. Sundaresan, & J. Tauberer (eds.).

Guasti, M. T. & U. Shlonsky. 1995. "The acquisition of French relative clauses reconsidered", *Language Acquisition* 4: 257-276.

Guasti, M.T., & A. Cardinaletti. 2003. "Relative clause formation in Romance child's production", *Probus* 15, 47-89.

Labelle, M. 1990. "Predication, wh-movement and the development of relative clauses", *Language Acquisition* 1: 95-119.

Pérez-Leroux, A. T. 1995. "Resumptives in the acquisition of relative clauses", *Language Acquisition* 4: 105-138.

Varlokosta, S. & S. Armon-Lotem. 1998. "Resumptives and wh-movement in the acquisition of relative clauses in Modern Greek and Hebrew", *Proceedings of the 22nd Boston University Conference on Language Development*, Boston, MA: Cascadilla Press.

Comprehension

Arosio, F., F. Adani, & M. T. Guasti. 2006. "Processing grammatical features by Italian children." Based on the talk given at the GALA conference, Siena, 2005.

Botwinik-Rotem, I. 2008. "Accounting for the comprehension of Hebrew object relatives", in A. Gavarró Algueró & M. João Freitas, eds. *Language Acquisition and Development. Proceedings of GALA2007*, Cambridge Scholars Press/CSP.

Botwinik, I. 2011. "Asymmetries in the processing of object relatives in child Hebrew and Italian", in Grimm, A., Müller, A., Hamann, C. & Ruigendijk, E. (eds.), *Production-comprehension asymmetries in child language*, Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.

Guasti, M. T. & F. Arosio. 2007. "Children's processing of Italian relative clauses disambiguated through agreement on the embedded verb." *Relative Clauses Workshop*, Cambridge.

Friedmann, N., Novogrodsky, R., Szterman, R., & Preminger, O. 2007. Resumptive pronouns as last resort when movement is impaired: Relative clauses in hearing

- impairment. In S. Armon-Lotem, S. Rothstein, & G. Danon (Eds.), *Generative approaches to Hebrew Linguistics*, series Linguistics Today, John Benjamins.
- Friedmann, N. & R. Szterman. 2006. "Syntactic movement in orally-trained children with hearing impairment". *Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education*, 11 56-75.
- Friedmann, N., & Novogrodsky, R.** 2004. "The acquisition of relative clause comprehension in Hebrew: A study of SLI and normal development", *Journal of Child Language*, 31, 661-681.
- Günzberg-Kerbel, N., Shvimer, L., & Friedmann, N. (2008). "Take the hen that the cow kissed the hen": The acquisition of comprehension and production of various relative clauses in Hebrew. *Language and Brain*, 7, 23-43. (in Hebrew)
- Hamburger, H. & S. Crain.** 1982. "Relative acquisition", *Language Development* Vol. 1 (S. Kuczaj, ed.).
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