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Causation triggers perspective shift on what is moving. The agent in an extended causation event can move along with the mobile object, and he can perceive the immobile object as if it were moving toward him. Such an illusion might lead the participants to interpret the immobile variants as the mobile ones. Moreover, such a shift can be calculated by making use of the object NPs before the verb appears.

Keywords: theme/location alternation, causation, self-paced reading

The effect of linguistic bias on prediction over time.

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Language users tend to adapt toward the statistical regularities of the language environment, including recently encountered syntactic structures. Error-based learning models account for such syntactic adaptation in terms of minimizing prediction errors; prediction errors are larger for less preferred structures, which leads to stronger adaptation (Chung, 2008). Under these accounts, comprehenders use their prior biases to generate predictions. This study investigated the effect of prior bias on prediction and change of predictions over the course of a visual world eye-tracking experiment. We identified participants’ bias for relative clause (RC) attachment at the pre-test using ambiguous RC sentences. Then, forty eight L1 English speakers with different strengths of low attachment bias were first exposed to sentences in which the RC attachment matched their initial bias (Low Attachment block: I see the woman of the cat that will wear the collar); next they were exposed to sentences with their less preferred structure (High Attachment block: I see the woman of the cat that will wear the shoes). We could not find effects of parsing bias on their initial prediction (i.e., no effect of Pre-bias on their predictive eye movements during the first half of each block). However, those with stronger bias showed more predictive looks to the targets than the competitors over time during exposure to their preferred structure, LA as well as less preferred structure, HA (Figure 1). These findings suggest that stronger bias toward a certain structure plays an important role in adaptation, regardless of structure type or prediction errors.

Keywords: parsing bias, prediction (error), adaptation

Preferred structure: LA Less preferred structure: HA

Figure 1. Fixation proportions on the targets and competitors during the first and the second half of each block (based on data from 48 participants with different strength of LA bias). Time 0ms: the onset of the verb. The vertical dotted line: the onset of the target noun.

Lexical Processing of Affective Russian Nouns: evidence from yes/no and go/no-go lexical decision task.

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The study presents linear mixed effects (LME) models for reaction times (RTs) to Russian nouns with different emotional valences extracted from ENRUN database (Lyusin & Sysoyeva, 2016). A set of stimuli included 120 words (40 positive, 40 negative and 40 neutral ones). The sample comprised 92 students: 44 participants performed yes/no visual LDT and 48 participants performed go/no-go LDT. Both LDTs confirmed the hypothesis of the effect of word valence on RT: the fastest reaction was observed on positive words, the slowest – on negative words (Fig. 1). The interaction of emotional valence and word frequency, that was found in Kuperman’s study (2014), was not revealed in our yes/no LDT but this effect was observed in our go/no-go LDT. This interaction is observed in the fact that valence effect (faster responses to positive words than to negative words) is more typical for low-frequent Russian nouns. Fixed effects in our two LME models explain a rather low proportion of RT variance (4.9-5.8%) but, this, in general, corresponds to the results of other similar studies. The contribution of random effects (first of all, the effect of the random intercept for the subjects) is considerably higher. The total explained RT variance in our models reaches 49 and 53%. This may mean that despite the presence of some fixed effects the RT variance in yes/no and go/no-go LDT is mainly determined by stable or situational features of the subjects.

Keywords: lexical decision task (LDT), emotional valence, Russian nouns

Figure 1. RTs for Russian nouns with different emotional valences in yes/no (on the left side) and go/no-go (on the right side) lexical decision tasks.
Word order preference in the on-line processing of multiple adverbial constructions of Korean.
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Word properties over experience-related factors: Investigating the masked translation priming asymmetry.
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Timing of application of bilingual inhibitory control.
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Keywords: lexical processing, psycholinguistics, second language acquisition

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