Time-Course of Grammatical Processing in Students with Deafness

(Gómez-Merino, N., Fajardo, I., Ferrer, A., & Arfé, B.)

LECTURA Estructura de Recerca Interdisciplinar



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Overview



Theoretical Framework

Objetive

Methodoloy

Results

Conclusions



- Population with a severe to profound hearing loss have improved their linguistic performance due to advances on auditory technology and early cochlear implantation.
- However still differences arise between those people who receive a Cochlear Implant and people with normal hearing, e.g. as shown by longer latencies in the P300 in response to audio-tone frequencies (Ghiselli, Gheller, Trevisi, Rampazzo, Ermani & Martini, 2016)
- There are also improvements in Reading comprehension due to Cochlear Implants <u>BUT still significant variability.</u> (Mayer & Trezek, 2017)
- In need to explore in higher grades, where the gap between deaf and typical hearing (TH) students tends to increase (Arfé, Guiselli & Montino, 2016)



- Barajas , Gonzalez-Cuenca & Carrero, 2016
- Takahashi, Isaka, Yamamoto & Nakamura, 2017
- Worsfold, Mahon, Pimperton & Stevenson, 2018.



Theoretical Framework.

Grammatical markers are perceptually less salient Poor Grammatical Skills and Reading Comprehension

- Boons et al., 2013
- Guo& Spencer, 2017

Le Normand, 2004

Are they sensitive to grammatical cues?

ON-LINE

- Breadmore, Krott and Olson, 2014
- Piñar, Carlson, Morford and Dussias, 2017
- Gómez-Merino, Fajardo & Ferrer, 2019 (in prep.)

OFF-LINE

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• Key- Word Strategy (Domínguez, Carrillo, Pérez & 2014)

 Gallego, Martín-Aragoneses, López-Higes & Pison (2016)



To have an insight into the reading behavior of orally educated deaf students by analyzing their eye-movements while taking part into a gramatical judgment task during sentence reading.



Students with deafness should:

- Be diagnosed with a Bilateral Prelingual severe to profound hearing loss (BIAP, 1997)
- \checkmark Attend to a 4th to 10th grade.

They were excluded if:

- × Decoding skills were 2DT below the mean.
- × Additional difficulties which could interfere.
- × Not using spoken Spanish as a primmary communication mode.





N= 40

Students from both groups were matched according to Non-Verbal IQ and Chronological age.

	Deaf	ΤН	
Gender	12 Girls ; 8 Boys	11 Girls; 9 Boys	
Chronological Age	12:05	12:00	
		J	
	<i>p</i> = .503		



- Non-verbal IQ (Matrices Subtest, K-BIT)
- Reading Comprehension (EMLE -TALE 2000)
- Word and Non-Word Reading (PROLEC-Se / PROLEC-R)
- Receptive Vocabulary. (Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test- PPVT-III)
- Oral Syntactic Ability. (Formulated Sentences, CELF-IV)
- Written Syntactic Ability.



1. Mañana llega Madrid					
🗆 con	🗆 para	🗆 de	entre		
2. Trabajamos lunes a viernes					
🗆 con	🗆 de	entre	🗆 en		
3. Luís estaba triste					
🗆 muy	🗆 mucho	🗆 con	🗆 nunca		



(S)S

 Participants' eye movements during the task were tracked using an SMI eye tracker with a recording sampling rate of 60Hz



How Hearing Impairment Affects Sentence Comprehension: Using Eye Fixations to Investigate the Duration of Speech Processing The Effect of Residual Acoustic Hearing and Adaptation to Uncertainty on Speech Perception in Cochlear Implant Users:

Evidence from Eye-Tracking

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1.For analyzing and designing the stimuli, it is divided into Areas Of Interes (AOIs)

- 2. A critical region should be identify (mainly where the manipulation occurs)
- 3. It's also important to analyse spillover region (the text that follows the critical region)

4. Fixation durations index cognitive effort (longer fixation duration = more difficulty /more cognitive effort required)

La madre quiere a la padre mucho.







- 24 sentences written in Spanish (12 congruent and 12 incongruent).
- A target word was manipulated in order to generate a grammatical incongruence in half of the trials .
- The incongruent word was semantically associated with the congruent one and matched on length and frequency.
- The congruency of the sentences was checked in a pilot study with n=88 Typical Hearing students.

PRE-TARGET	TARGET	POST-TARGET
La madre quiere a la	hija	mucho.
The mother loves the	daughter	a lot.
La madre quiere a la	padre	mucho.
The mother loves the	father	a lot.



Students read in silent and judged the correctness of the sentences by clicking on YES or NO, after the Reading of each sentence.



Results: Background assesment.

	De	af	Т	Н	Comparisons botward an			
	(N=20)		(N=20)		Comparisons betw		en groups	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	F	U	р	
Non Verbal IQ (RS)	33.85	7.63	34.35	4.72		159.5	.271	
Non Verbal IQ (SS)	103.2	9.12	109.25	10.85	.158		.064	
Text Reading Comprehension (SS)	87.5	19.18	103.9	6.65		80	.001	
Word Reading Accuracy (RS)	39.4	.88	39.7	.47		191	.762	
Word Reading Accuracy (SS)	106.85	8.23	107.07	8.07		198.5	.967	
Non Word Reading Accuracy (RS)	38.65	1.56	38.55	1.6		192.5	.833	
Non Word Reading Accuracy (SS)	109.51	9.41	108.75	7.24		172.5	.456	
Word Reading Speed (Sec)	33.65	7.59	28.9	5.8		127	.048	RS= Raw Scores
Word Reading Speed (SS)	107.51	10.86	115.99	7.36		105	.010	SS= Standard Scores
Non Word Reading Speed (Sec)	47.45	8.46	49.15	9.73	.565		.559	Sec= Seconds
Non Word Reading Speed (SS)	111.78	10.18	11346	7.69		172.5	.456	
Receptive Vocabulary (RS)	110.95	24.45	139.25	14.49		69.5	<.001	
Oral Syntactic Ability (RS)	35.9	8.06	43.45	5.9		87	.002	
Written Syntactic Ability	43.65	13.55	52	11.09		125	.042	

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RS= Raw Scores SS= Standard Scores Sec= Seconds



1) Deaf readers would be less able than TH readers to detect the grammatical incongruence of the sentences read.

2) No significant effects of grammatical violations on the target area for the deaf readers, but delayed effects in terms of number and duration of visits and regressions to pre- and post-target areas (Breadmore et al., 2014).





Eye-Movement Measure

First Fixation Duration:	The Duration of the First Fixation in an AOI. (i.e = t.5)			
First Pass Gaze Duration:	Sum of fixations durations from the first entry into an AOI until the eyes leaves it in any direction. (i.e= t.5 + t.6)			
Second Pass Gaze Duration:	Sum of fixation durations from the second entry to the AOI until the eye leaves it in any direction. (i.e= t.8+ t.9)			
Regressions into AOI:	Number of revisits to the AOI from the right. (i.e= 8 + 9= 2n)			
Fixation Time:	Sum of all fixations durations within the area of interest. (i.e= t.5+t.6+t.8+ t.9)			
Fixation Count:	Total number of fixations within the area of interest. (i.e= 5+6+8+9=4)			





- Fixations shorter than 80 ms were excluded from the data set.
- For each eye-movement time measure, the cells >2.5 SDs above or below each participant mean for each condition were excluded from the analyses (following Micai et al., 2017)



□ Congruent ■ Incongruent



□ Congruent ■ Incongruent



- Early detection of the incongruence by both groups.
- However, deaf students needed to "Revise" as shown by their Second Pass Gaze Duration.

PRE-TARGET	TARGET	POST-TARGET
La madre quiere a la	padre	mucho.
The mother loves the	father	a lot.



- Inverted data: They spent more on congruent sentences.
 - TH follow a different type of correctness once the

ungrammaticality has been discarded.







Conclusions

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La madre quiere a la padre mucho.

Conclusions

- In our study the deaf group did not ignore morpho-syntactic cues as suggested by Dominguez and Alegría (2009). They actually used them very early as can be inferred from the grammaticality effects in the target region.
- Deaf readers re-read more and spend more time integrating the grammatical information delivered when judging for sentence correctness.

Need to focus not only in instructional intervention on deaf students' grammatical knowledge, but also on their explicit awareness and use of syntactic cues during reading.

Grazie mille per la tua attenzione

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The results presented are preliminary, final results have been published under the reference:

Gómez-Merino, N., Fajardo, I., Ferrer, A., & Arfé, B. (in press). Time-Course of Grammatical Processing in Deaf Readers: An Eye-Movement Study. *The Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education*,enaa005, <u>https://doi.org/10.1093/deafed/enaa005</u>