



A Review of a Final Thesis

submitted to the Department of English and ELT Methodology,
Faculty of Arts, Charles University

Name and titles of the reviewer:

Reviewed as: a supervisor an opponent

Author of the thesis: Tatiana Lebedeva

Title of the thesis: Nonword Repetition Task for Detecting Developmental Language Disorder in English-Russian Bilingual Children

Year of submission: 2024

Submitted as: a bachelor's thesis a master's thesis

Level of expertise:

excellent very good average below average inadequate

Factual errors:

almost none appropriate to the scope of the thesis frequent less serious serious

Chosen methodology:

original and appropriate appropriate barely adequate inadequate

Results:

original original and derivative non-trivial compilation cited from sources copied

Scope of the thesis:

too large appropriate to the topic adequate inadequate

Bibliography (number and selection of titles):

above average (scope or rigor) average below average inadequate

Typographical and formal level:

excellent very good average below average inadequate

Language:

excellent very good average below average inadequate

Typos:

almost none appropriate to the scope of the thesis numerous



Brief description of the thesis (by the supervisor, ca. 100-200 words):

This thesis deal with the creation and delivery of two nonword repetition tasks. The two tasks are in English and in Russian and are crafted to be highly coherent with each other, producing in essence a bilingual assessment with nonwords. The tasks are based on previous work on this topic and contain nonwords with varying levels of complexity in terms of length, phonological clusters, and morphological structure. The thesis contains a thorough description of the theoretical background leading to the creation of these tasks, a precise explanation of the procedure followed to create the tasks, a case-study on a bilingual child evaluating the quality of the tasks in relation to other standardised measures of linguistic development.

Review, comments and notes (ca. 100-200 words)

Strong points of the thesis:

The thesis has several strong points and is, overall, an excellent piece of work. I am particularly impressed by Ms Lebedeva's writing skills: Ms Lebedeva manages to produce text that is very clear, informative, and pleasant to read. I am also very impressed by the materials produced: The creation of the tasks was completed with extreme care, and Ms Lebedeva tried to control for several different variables, displaying a deep understanding of the principle of linguistic research.

Weak points of the thesis:

The evaluation of the task was completed on one single subject. This is clearly not ideal (as Ms Lebedeva stresses in her limitations section) and reduces thus the reliability of the findings.

Questions to answer during the Defence and suggested points of discussion:

One interesting finding of your study is that nonwords with one phonological cluster were spared in your participant (as shown in the task you created), while nonwords with multiple clusters were problematic (as shown in the CNRep). What are the implications of this finding for the creation of nonword tasks? How would you take this finding into account when creating a new, improved, version of your bilingual task? Do you expect this effect to be consistent cross-linguistically, or to be more prominent in some languages?

Other comments:

Proposed grade:

excellent very good good fail

Place, date and signature of the reviewer:

Prague, May 21st 2024

Darya Libenská