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Lecturer

1886

Arturo A. Example

native Italian speaker
learned French and English
Suffered a hemiplegic stroke
Never recover French and
English.

How is the bilingual
brain organized?

Familiarity

Jean Albert Pitzes

The language resistant to damage would be the language spoken at the time of stroke.

Law of Regression

Theodore Ribot

Memories learned in early life are organic.

Dementia Example
lose skills from the
complex to simple.

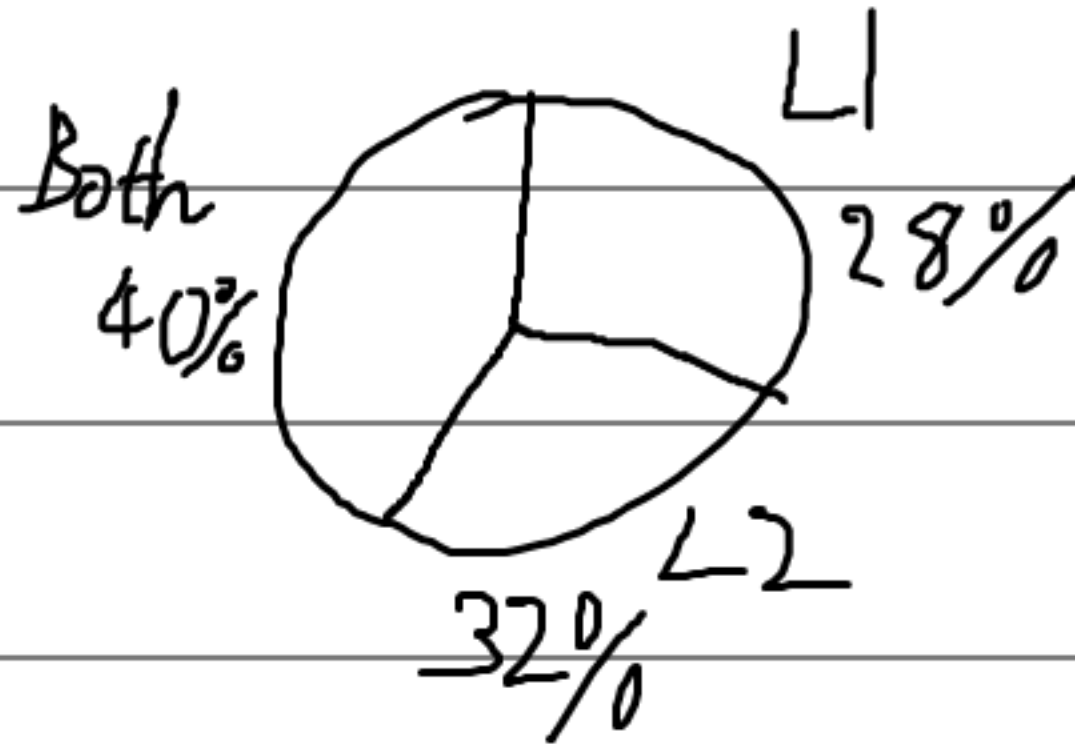
Story of a Forester
L1 Polish L2 German
L2 is primary

During anesthesia,
speak Polish for hours.

1999

Fabbro, Neurolinguistics
of Bilingualism.

Recovery in Bilingual Aphasia



Patient A.S.

native Farsi

L2 German L3 English

alternate between L1 and

L2 during recovery
from a stroke.

Natural Antagonism Between Languages

Language Switch

Otto Poetzl

A neurological mechanism
that allows a speaker to
remain in one language
and switch to another.

Get
Stuck

Language Fixation

L1 Czech, learn L2 German

at 14

Understood both Czech
and German

Could only speak
Czech.

Outline

- Age of Acquisition -
- Law of Regression
- Proficiency - Familiarity
- Control - Fixation

How does the mind work?

Computer metaphor

Information processing

Layers Linguistic metaphor

Brain Location metaphor

Language is not one thing and is complex.

Language develops over time.

Language is like two species coexisting in an ecosystem.

- coexist
- share resources

Cortex is part of lobe
myelin, axon

Morrison and Ellis 1995

Age of Acquisition

Words learned earlier are
remembered better.

AoA vs. Freq.

Asked people to name
picture.

AoA effect was present even
for low freq. word.

Meschyan and Heenan
2002

Used a 2x2 design

Found effects of both
freq. and AoA.

Possible Theories

- Phonological complex late learned words.
- First arrival. Words arriving first are most important.

Critical (sensitive) periods

Nobel

Hubel and Wiesel

Laureates Visual Deprivation

Cells in the primary visual cortex respond to edges.

Bird songs example

Common in visual, motor, and auditory domains.

Perfect Pitch example
corpus callosum

Expert vs. Novice effects.

Skill Motor Learning
different stressors
chunking

AoA & Language
Kids combine words at
about 50 words.

Genie and Victor
example

Genie struggles with
grammar and pronun-
ciation.

Phonology

Coarticulation

Blurry vs. Big boundary

Grammar

'permit vs. per'mit

5~6 months of age infants
can still distinguish novel
sounds. At about 8 months,
the ability begins to disappear.

Plasticity, relearn sound
contrasts.

Trisyllabic breakup
elcarro → el carro
lacasa → la casa

Sensorimotor Nature of
AoA

Habituation

Infants at birth actually have preference for their native language.

speech sound & melody
prosody

Valley girl vs. Surfer dude

Catalan vs. Spanish

Active vs. Passive exposure

Phonology in L2
Quichua vs. Spanish
Accent & AoA
Individuality

Phonological Bootstrapping

Critical period in L2
grammar Age matters. 7 yrs
no period.

AoA & Orphaned language

More brain activity in late
bilinguals

AoA effects disappear when
proficiency is controlled

N400 brainwave

semantic violation

P600 brainwave

grammatical violation

Proficiency, efficiency, and expertise.

Adriaan de Groot
from a chess playing
family.

very well educated
studied math & science
eventually studied
psychology

Max Euwe - chess champ

respond quickly
remember more chessboard
configuration
pictorial memory
redundancy is used
very well by experts

unnoticed for 20 yrs.

Eye Fixation
redundancy really
matters.

Perceptual Expertise
moon example

John Hughlings Jackson
face recognition

bias toward faces

Inversion effects

K. Anders Ericsson
Face reconstruction

deep structures & feels

quantitative approaches

behavioral vs. cognitive
psychology

digit span test

up to 20 digits with
practice

chunking again

mythical stories of
prodigies

3 hours a day of
deliberate practice
roughly a normal person
can handle
1000 hrs a yrs
10 yrs to be an expert

diagnostic doctors
don't always improve
but surgeons do improve
over time.

constant feedback

Deliberate Practice
directive vs. elaborative
low SES high SES
diffuse EEG focus EEG
automatic vs. effortful

Learning w/o knowing

Henry Gustav Molaison
example
procedural memory
tasks

verbalizable rules vs.
non-verbalizable rules

Short-term → working memory
verbal working memory
example.

reading span test

Office Hours

CALP vs. BICS

Gomez Tortosa, 1997
a bilingual, L1 Spanish
L2 English, went through
surgery, reduce L1.

Boston naming
test

criticism on the
reasoning of Tortosa
19/30 L1 before
32/60 L1 after
44/60 L2

differential impairment

47/60 L2 34/60 L1
for a group of similar
bilingual

Language Loss

Hernandez's Farsi
example

Catastrophic Loss

Christophe Adults adopted at
Pallier 4~8 yrs old by French
families lost L1 Korean.

brain activities are
almost like monolingual.
can detect subtle
sound differences
sense, residual abilities

Robert Bjork, mem.
retrieval

If you really want to
remember something,
you should almost forget it.

Plasticity & Transfer

ASL community

English vs. ASL

Early exposure to a
language is important

Which one is not.

Restructuring plasticity

Share vs. separate

Judith Kroll

parasitism, Brian
McQuinn

Dichotic nature
of language

Tamar Gollan
reversed dominance

Jim Cummins
BICS vs. CALP

Some bilingual professors
have high CALP but low
BICS.

viewed as a continuum
past tense, regular vs.
irregular

AoA correlate regular
LP correlates irregular
CALP across language.

Academic vs. Everyday
Grammar

early learners, N400
proficient learners, P600

implicit vs. explicit
procedural vs. declarative

Speech Learning Model
returning
comparative process

Superior temporal gyrus

readjustment process
8-11 yrs old, eventually
transit to superior
temporal gyrus as time
rolls on.

AoA & Proficiency interact

Language Learning as a
building process
Generality

Controlled Adjustment

Control & Development

Nim Chimsky

Cognitive Control

Primates Study

Orangutans, solitary, tool
use

Piaget

human has very basic reflexes.

grasp thing

startle reflex

walking reflex

face recognition

He was criticized for this idea.

sensorimotor earliest

symbolic operation

formal operation

object permanence
out of sight, out of mind

lights off, infant reaches
for the toy.

world as distractor
checklist & agenda

young children are egocentric

Conditionals

Three-Mountain Task

until 7 years old

theory of mind

what if you were you?

From control to flexibility

1927, Arthur Jersild
task switching effects

older and better at switch

prefrontal cortex degrades
first
young and old adults
process information differently
pro-active vs. reactive

Control in language
behavior same, brain
activity differ between
adolescents and adults.

hippocampus activity in ado-
lescents, forming memory.

immersion, inference
impossible to remember
everything all the time

language switch
nature of context

bypass meaning, just look
forms.

U-shape again
blocked vs mixed switch

dorsolateral cortex

Prefrontal Cortex

Executive functions

Decision-making

Response selection

Response inhibition

Working memory

Anterior Cingulate Cortex

Attention

Conflict monitoring

Error detection

Basal Ganglia, Candidate
Language selection
Set switching
Language planning
Lexical selection

Inferior Parietal Lobule
Maintenance of
representations
Working Memory

Bilingual Advantage Controversial

flexibility in use of symbols
call the moon spaghetti

dissociate between label
and item

Concept Shifting

Bilingual Disadvantage
name a picture, slower
than monolingual.

repetition priming
monolingual faster

tip of tongue effect
larger for bilingual

4 yrs later for bilinguals to
have symptoms of Alzheimer

Caveats: bimodal bilinguals
don't show this advantages

Spoken vs. Sign Language
less inference

Montreal, no difference
between monolingual and
bilingual.

Immigrant advantage?

switchers vs. non-switchers
non-switchers did better at others

Asian & Musician advantage

better control, less inference

Control, early and late
bilingual

Beyond Control
bilinguals are better
word learners.

brainwave precedes behavior
N400

preponderant response
most likely response

nonlinear dynamics of bilingual
bilingualism

parallel processor
competitive process

lexical network
clear boundary for simultaneous

homologous activity
for complex sentence
right hemisphere

expert bypass frontal
lobe and use parietal
lobe

metaphor of mind
metaphor of brain