

Homework Assignment #2
Due: November 20, 2018

Writers for the popular press take research findings and translate them for a general audience. However, sometimes information gets omitted or misinformation gets introduced during this translation. Your job in this assignment is to choose ONE of the posted research articles and its associated popular press report and to do a 2-page (double spaced) critique of the relationship between the two. Your critique should address:

- 1) What aspect of language development does the research study relate to? What is the main research question tested (and how did they test this)? What are the authors' main conclusions?
- 2) Based on the study and data reported, do you think the popular press article is an accurate representation of the study's findings? Why or why not?
 - Does the author of the popular press article seem to be overstating the conclusions that can be drawn from the study?
 - Do the tone and conclusion of the article seem justified to you?
 - Is the heading an accurate reflection of the content of the press report? Of the article itself?
 - What do you think the author of the popular press article should have done to make it a more accurate representation of the study's findings?
 - Is there something else that they should have mentioned? Is there something that should not have been included in the press report?

The links to the popular press articles are provided below. In bold is the name of the first author for the associated research article:

Ferry: <http://www.nydailynews.com/life-style/health/talking-parents-smarter-babies-words-babyspeak-article-1.173555>

Singh: http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2014/09/04/bilingual-children_n_5766966.html

Poulin-Dubois: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2011/01/110119120409.htm>

Kidd et al: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-1376898/Umming-ahhing-parents-help-babies-learn-speak-scientists-claim.html?ITO=1490>