



M. Casillas  
Postbus 310  
6500 AH Nijmegen  
The Netherlands

1 October 2014

Dear Prof. Dr. Pickering,

We are submitting our manuscript on 'The development of children's ability to track and predict turn structure in conversation' to the *Journal of Memory and Language*.

We present two eye-tracking experiments with children ages 1–6 aimed at finding out (a) when they begin to spontaneously anticipate turn structure and (b) how their predictions change as they acquire linguistic knowledge. Our results suggest that children already predict upcoming turns at age one, that they show a general advantage for prosody before age three, and they show a later advantage for lexicosyntax, but only within question-answer sequences. We compare our results to recent work on child and adult turn anticipation (Keitel et al., 2013; de Ruiter et al., 2006), and present a new method for analyzing participants' anticipatory gaze switches during conversation. Please let us know if there is any further information you require about the submission.

**Manuscript identifying details:**

**Title:** The development of children's ability to track and predict turn structure in conversation  
**Authors:** Marisa Casillas<sup>a</sup> and Michael C. Frank<sup>b</sup>  
**Affiliations:** a) Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, b) Stanford University

Thank you very much for your consideration,

Marisa Casillas (Corresponding author)  
MPI for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen  
Marisa.Casillas@mpi.nl  
+31 (0)24 3521 566