April 4, 2022

Dear Editorial Board,

It is my pleasure to submit the manuscript entitled “Dual-Language Education and Age Effects in Subjunctive Mood Development in Child Heritage Spanish.” This manuscript has not been published before and is not currently being considered for publication elsewhere. There are no conflicts of interest associated with this manuscript, and there has been no financial support for this work that could have influenced its outcome. Please note that this manuscript sources data from my unpublished doctoral dissertation, which is stated at the beginning of the manuscript for reviewers. If necessary, I can furnish a copy of my dissertation upon request.

In this article, I compare children’s acquisition of subjunctive mood morphology in a dual-language education school and a monolingual school. All children were heritage speakers of Spanish. Although there is no effect of dual language education in the results, contra the widespread assumption that this type of bilingual schooling confers an advantage in the acquisition of the heritage language, heritage speakers’ knowledge of mood increases with age. This is against the predictions of Putnam and Sánchez’s (2013) prominent model of heritage language acquisition because it does not align with the claim that patterns of exposure lead to a reassembly of features. Furthermore, the rates of subjunctive mood production and selection on two tasks pattern with those of studies on adult bilinguals, suggesting that children in adolescence converge on the adult-like bilingual mood system. These findings have theoretical implications for our understanding of the processes of morphological development in bilingual teenagers, as well as for our knowledge of the impact of immersion programs more generally.

I believe that *Journal of Child Language* is an ideal forum for my research article given its focus on bilingualism and the number of quality previous publications related to my scholarship that appear in this publication. Sharing my research with this journal is an opportunity to disseminate findings to like-minded researchers in a respected and well-cited journal, and I look forward to your feedback and hope to collaborate with you in the publication of this manuscript.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my manuscript and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Sincerely,



Patrick D. Thane, Ph.D.