

Research Article

LINGUISTIC ALIGNMENT, LEARNER CHARACTERISTICS, AND THE PRODUCTION OF STRANDED PREPOSITIONS IN RELATIVE CLAUSES

COMPARING FTF AND SCMC CONTEXTS

YouJin Kim*

Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology

YeonJoo Jung

Pusan National University

Stephen Skalicky

Victoria University of Wellington

Linguistic Alignment

During conversation, speakers will *align* their linguistic patterns

- Lexical alignment (repeating the same words)
- Syntactic alignment (repeating the same grammatical structure)
- Lots of research demonstrating this in L1
- An unconscious, automatic process

Pickering, M. J., & Garrod, S. (2004). The interactive-alignment model: Developments and refinements. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 27, 212–225.

Alignment and L2

Evidence that structural and lexical alignment occurs in L2 speech

- But does this lead to acquisition / learning?
- Does modality of conversation (speaking versus reading) influence alignment?
- Does alignment depend on the target structure?

Jackson, C. (2018). Second language structural priming: A critical review and directions for future research. *Second Language Research*, 34, 539–552.

Our Studies

Stranded Prepositions

- Modality (FTF vs. SCMC)
- Individual Differences
- **Noticing**

Kim, Y., Jung, Y., & Skalicky, S. (2019). Linguistic alignment, learner characteristics, and the production of stranded prepositions in relative clauses. *Studies in Second Language Acquisition*, 41(5), 937–969.

<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0272263119000093>

Direct/Indirect Questions

- Modality (FTF vs. SCMC)
- Individual Differences

Kim, Y., Skalicky, S., & Jung, Y. (2020). The Role of Linguistic Alignment on Question Development in Face-to-Face and Synchronous Computer-Mediated Communication Contexts: A Conceptual Replication Study. *Language Learning*, 70(3), 643-684. <https://doi.org/10.1111/lang.12393>

Study Design

Pre-test / post-test

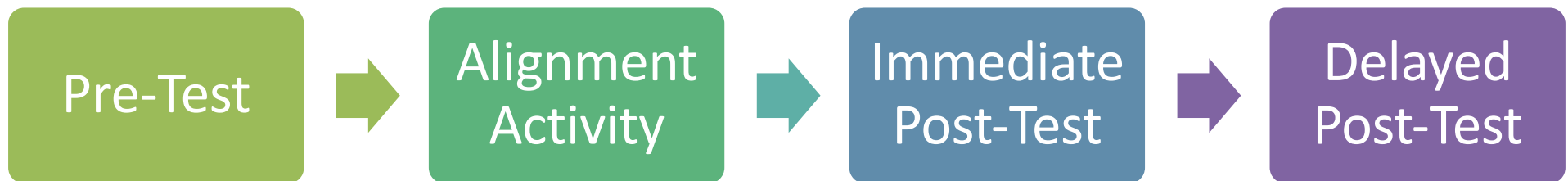
- Test production of target structure

Alignment session

- Promote production of target structure via alignment

Korean university students (Korean L1, English L2)

- Half complete activity FTF, half SCMC (+ control group)
- Prior knowledge, General proficiency, & Working Memory



Stranded Prepositions

General use

- Who are you going to dinner **with**?
- Which page did you find the answer **on**?
- Where did all those dogs come **from**?

In relative clauses (more complex)

- A jar is something you take cookies **from**.
- A table is something you eat dinner **on**.

Stranded Prepositions



General use

- Who are you going to dinner **with**?
- Which page did you find the answer **on**?
- Where did all those dogs come **from**?

In relative clauses (more complex)

- A jar is something you take cookies **from**.
- A table is something you eat dinner **on**.

Directions: For this exercise, you will play a game with the researcher. Describe each item using the verb provided to the researcher, and she/he will guess which item was being described. You must start with **“This is something....”**

	Verbs	Picture	Answer that you expect from the researcher
1	Make		Grapes
2	Build		Bricks

Communicative Alignment Task

- (Researcher has a picture of a dish rack)
- Researcher: This is something you dry dishes on.
- Learner: A dish rack?
- Researcher: Yes. Your turn.
- (Learner has picture of grapes with verb *make*)
 - Learner: This is something you make wine with.
 - Learner: This is something that makes wine

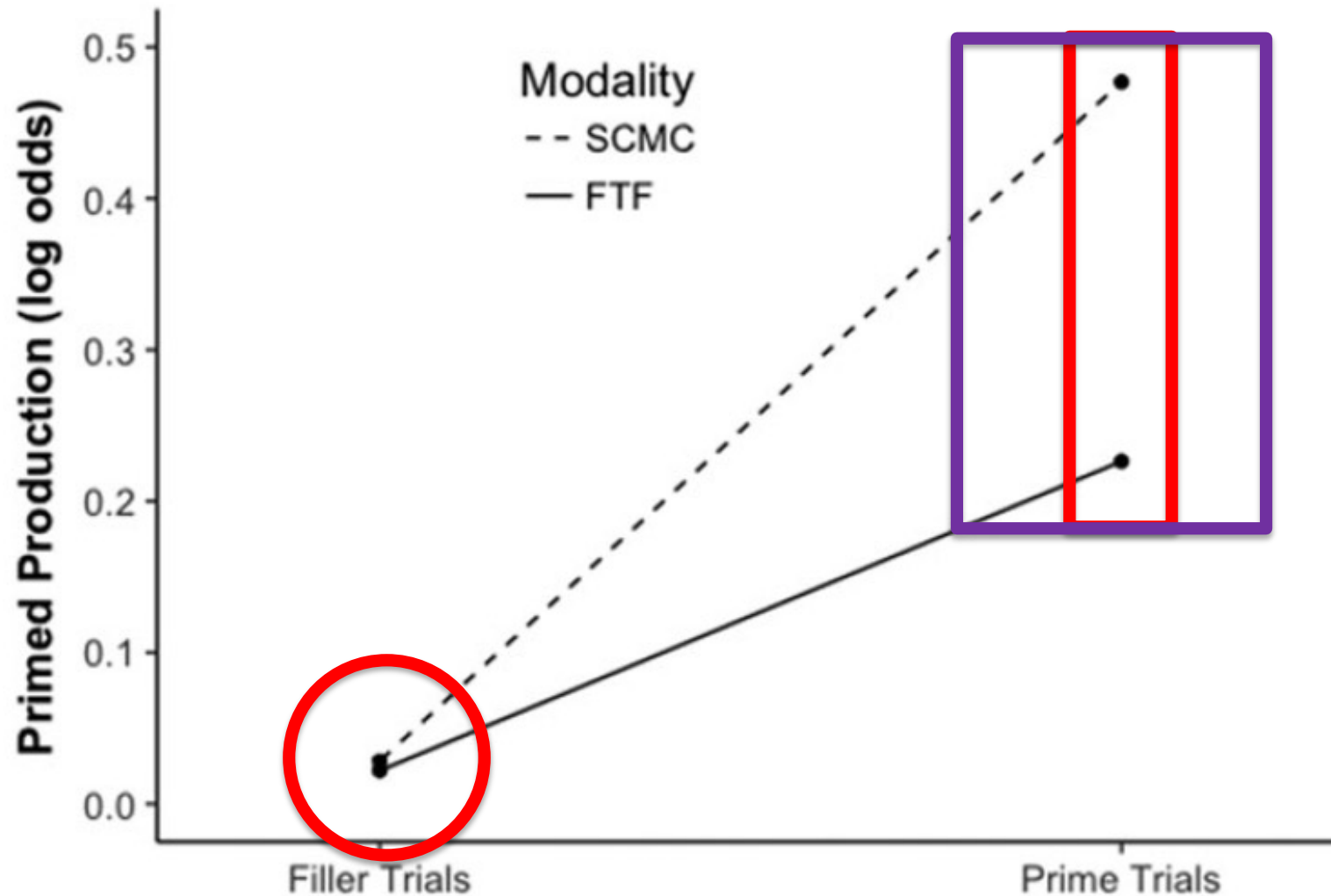
Priming Expected

Communicative Task: Filler Trials

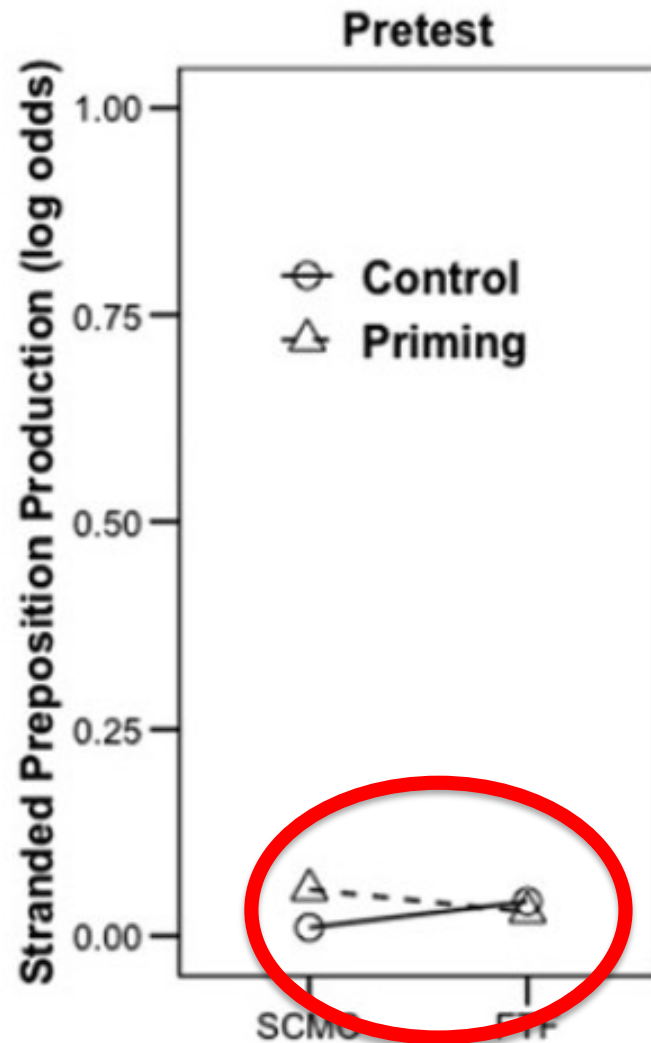
- (Teacher has a picture of luggage)
- Teacher: This is something you bring on an airplane.
- Learner: A luggage?
- Teacher: Yes. Your turn.
- (Learner has picture of passport with verb *show*)
 - Learner: This is something you show at the border.

Priming Not Expected

Did alignment occur?

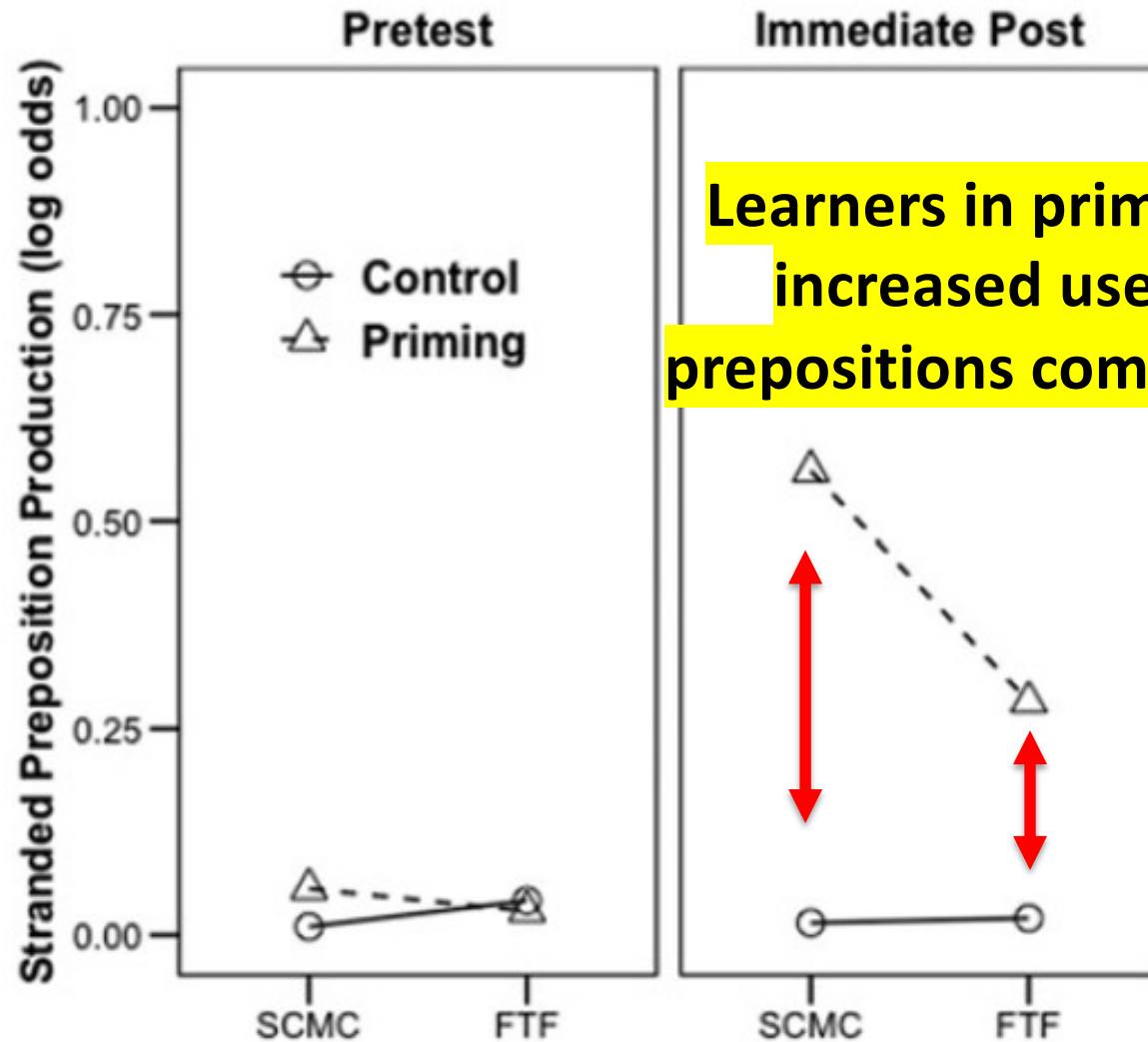


Subsequent learning?



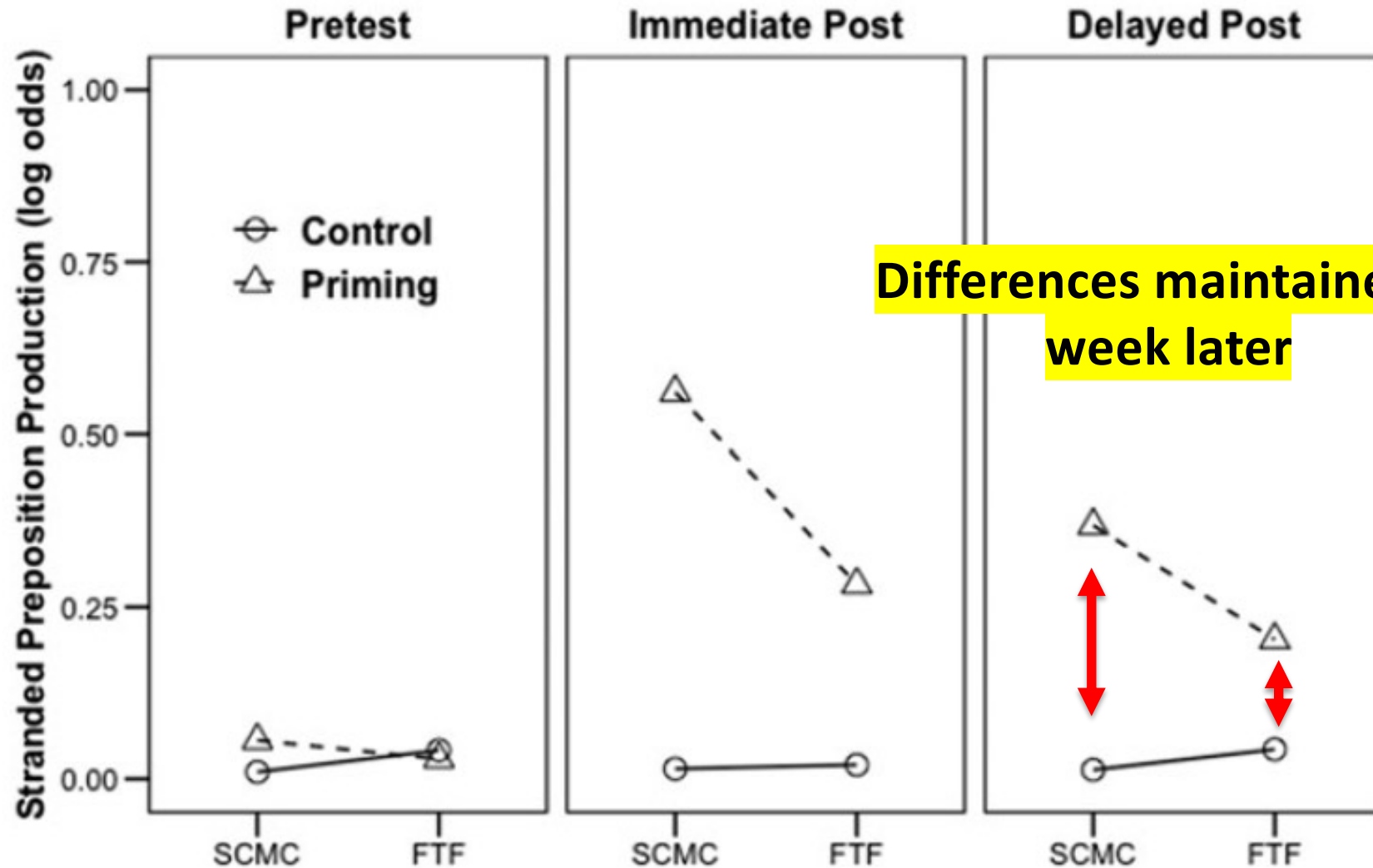
No differences in pre-test behavior between control/alignment groups

Results: Production Tests

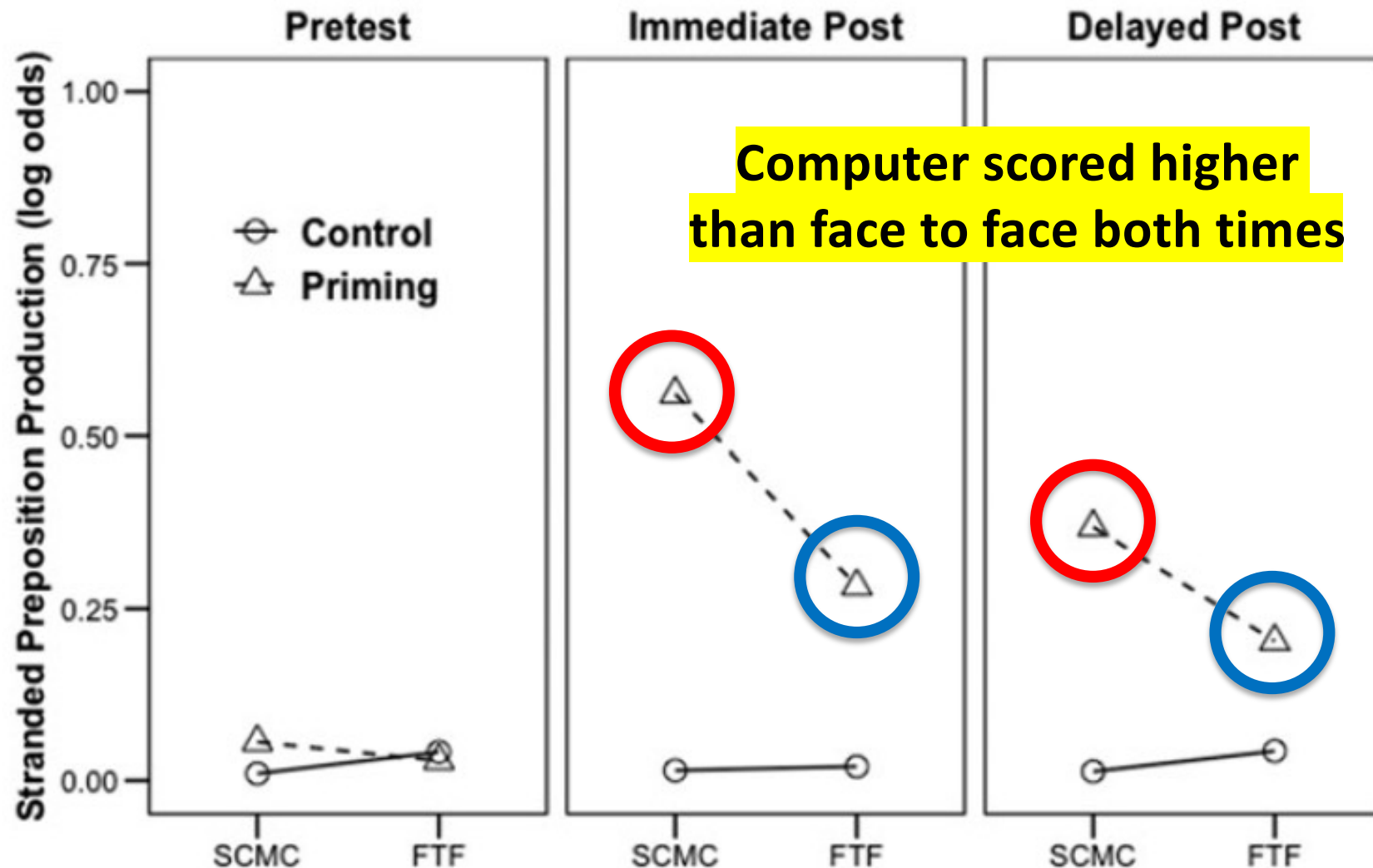


Learners in priming/alignment increased use of stranded prepositions compared to control

Results: Production Tests



Results: Production Tests



Computer scored higher than face to face both times