

Residual V2 at the syntax-lexicon interface of advanced Dutch learners of English: a syntactic priming study

John-Sebastian Schutter
j.schutter@sms.ed.ac.uk

Developmental Linguistics, Edinburgh University

Recent research on L2 ultimate attainment has focused on the learner's non-convergence between the L2 and the target language with respect to different interfaces (Sorace and Filiaci 2006, Sorace 2011). Studies on near-nativeness have focused on the syntax-pragmatics (Pacheco and Flynn 2006), syntax-discourse (Hopp 2009) and syntax-morphology (Hopp 2010) interfaces, but not so much on the syntax-lexicon interface: i.e. how the choice of a particular word/word category and its properties influences the syntax of the sentence. The focus of this talk will be on one of the experimental methods, a syntactic priming task, I adopted in order to investigate the existence of systematic L1 effects at the syntax-lexicon interface of advanced to near-native Dutch learners of English in their L2 production. The interface phenomenon under investigation was residual V2 word order in the L2 learner's production. This study investigates to what extent Dutch L2 learners appear to have real-time access to (meta)linguistic knowledge of the lexical-syntactic constraints of which V2 structures in English are licensed and which are not. The elicited data and subsequent logistic mixed effects regression analyses, as well as future directions for further research are discussed.

References

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