Analysis of Speeded Picture Naming Errors: Recognizing Patterns across Child Language Disorders

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ABSTRACT

Children with language disorders have been found to exhibit deviations in naming pictures, either in terms of speed or type of responses. Under the check of time, such errors may aggravate or become apparent in deviant ways. The current study is an attempt to delineate patterns of errors shown on speeded picture naming by children with three types of language disorders namely, Learning Disability (LD), Mental Retardation (MR) and Down syndrome (DS), and compare the same with typically developing children (TD) aged between six and twelve years. As the target population is Kannada-English bilingual with English as their medium of instruction in schooling, and is derived from a multilingual speaking environment, the task of naming is set in English and the errors are analysed in the context of multilingual language organization in addition to language processing concerned with picture naming. The findings reveal that the error patterns can distinguish between TD, LD, DS and MR. The errors that facilitate these differences are discussed according to the influence of language deficits on the stages involved in picture naming.

1. INTRODUCTION

Naming a picture at the fastest possible rate provides a denouement that apparently is simple and discrete in the form of