

The Breadth of Phonological Interference in Word Choice

Mark J. Koranda & Maryellen C. MacDonald mjkoranda@wisc.edu



Background

Phonological overlap predicts verb choice (give/hand/ pass)[3] and object choice [4] in sentence production. Predicts errors in lexical access [1,2].

If selection is influenced by ease of access, phonological interference should increase naming latency for dominant words, and use of other names.

Participants named pictures/ words one at a time [6].

> n pictures words

83 target 46 Norms ___ 102 18 target 18 prime Exp 1 36 fill 36 fill 40 target 40 prime 82 Exp 2 40 fill 40 fill

Exp 2: Interference Across Name Agreement

Dominant / No Interference preceded a range of name-agreement pictures







"carnival"

Exp 1: Dominant and Secondary Name Interference

Trial structure. Phonological interference preceded low nameagreement pictures with clear dominant and secondary names.





Word Choice

Percent of dominant picture names used as a function of interference and name agreement. Points reflect raw means for each picture. The dominant name was used significantly less in the **Dominant** than in the **No Interference** condition (p < .05).



Word Choice

- Phonological interference predicts proportion of dominant names produced (all tests, p < .05). Naming Latency
- Dominant names faster, p <.01
- Interference and Interaction, ns



Summary/Conclusions

- Word choice was significantly affected by phonological interference in low-agreement (Exp1) and a range of name agreement pictures (Exp2). • Phonological overlap influences latency (Exp2).
- **Post-Hoc**: Latency*Interference*Agreement predicts choice (**Exp2**). Accessibility affects online production across single-word messages.

Supported by NIH T32DC005359 and Wisconsin Alumni Research Fund

References

- 1. Dell, G. S., Schwartz, M. F., Martin, N., Saffran, E. M. & Gagnon, D. A. Lexical Access in Aphasic and Nonaphasic speakers. Psychol. Rev. 104, 801–838 (1997).
- 2. Ferreira, V. S. & Griffin, Z. M. Phonological influences on lexical (mis) selection. Psychol. Sci. 14, 86–90 (2003). 3. Jaeger, T. F., Furth, K. & Hilliard, C. Phonological overlap affects lexical selection during sentence production. J. Exp. Psychol. Learn. Mem. Cogn. 38, 1439–1449 (2012).
- 4. Rapp, D. N. & Samuel, A. G. A reason to rhyme: Phonological and semantic influences on lexical access. J. Exp. Psychol. Learn. Mem. Cogn. 28, 564–571 (2002).
- 5. Smith, M. & Wheeldon, L. Horizontal information flow in spoken sentence production. J. Exp. Psychol. Learn. Mem. Cogn. 30, 675– 686 (2004).

6. Szekely, A. et al. A new on-line resource for psycholinguistic studies. J. Mem. Lang. 51, 247–250 (2004).