

Today's topic:

- **Presentation and discussion:**
Bilingualism and morphological awareness

Background:

- Kuo, Ramirez, de Marin, Kim, & Unal-Gezer (2017), "Bilingualism and morphological awareness..."

0. Course info and announcements

- **Group 2:** Remember to fill out the **self and peer evaluation form** by **11:59pm** on **W Oct 30** (GDoc form; see link via Canvas “Assignments”)
- **Group 3:** Article presentation coming up
 - Combined slides due **Th Oct 31, 2:30pm**
 - Self/peer feedback due **F Nov 1, 11:59pm**

0. Key points today

- Group 2 presentation
- Follow-up discussion on the article:
Bilingual education

1. Article presentation

- **Group 2 article presentation**

Kuo, Li-Jen, Gloria Ramirez, Sharon de Marin, Tae-Jin Kim, and Melike Unal-Gezer. 2017. Bilingualism and morphological awareness: A study with children from general education and Spanish-English dual language programs. *Educational Psychology* 37 (2): 94-111.

- [Article link](#) (UNC Libraries)

2. Discussion: Kuo et al. (2017)

- Any additional comments or questions?

2. Discussion: Kuo et al. (2017)

- A key aspect of the experiment design:

“Participants’ relative **performance** on these **different types of words** varying in origin, morphological complexity and frequency allowed us to **gauge** their **morphological awareness** and **cognate awareness.**”

(Kuo et al. 2017: 99, emphasis added)

- How was this supposed to work?
- Were there any potential problems with this idea?

2. Discussion: Kuo et al. (2017)

- What are outcomes of dual-language education?

“This finding is consistent with previous research showing that while it is likely for Spanish-speaking children in dual-language programmes to become proficient in English around grade three, the same trend has not been observed with English-speaking children developing proficiency in Spanish at the same juncture...” (Kuo et al. 2017: 105)

- What do you think might be responsible for this Spanish/English difference?

2. Discussion: Kuo et al. (2017)

- What are outcomes of dual-language education?
 - Are there advantages or disadvantages for **English**-speaking children to be in a dual-language program, according to this study?
 - What about **Spanish**-speaking children? What can we say, and what can't we say, on the basis of this study?

3. Meta-discussion: On article presentations

- Does anyone have any suggestions or ideas for the **presenters** or the **audience** to consider, going forward?

4. Bilingualism and education

- Have you heard people make either of these claims?
 - Bilingualism is important for **education** and/or **intelligence!** **Expose** young children to multiple languages!
 - Bilingualism will **hold kids back!** Don't **confuse** them with multiple languages when they are small!

4. Bilingualism and education

- A lot of the early research on the effect of bilingualism on intelligence or educational achievement carried out in English-speaking societies had serious methodological flaws
 - What factors are important to control for when comparing monolingual and bilingual students?

4. Bilingualism and education

- There is some research suggesting that bi- or multilingual speakers...
 - have better executive control (~mental planning and task switching)
 - are less susceptible to cognitive decline

But effects are small, and results are under debate

4. Bilingualism and education

- There is essentially **no** evidence that bilingualism has any negative effects on education or intelligence
 - There are lots of other **positives** (cultural, etc.)
- For more about bilingualism and possible effects on intelligence, see Ch 7 in Kaplan (2016) (available through [Course Reserves](#))

5. For next time

- **Group 3:** Article presentation
 - Combined slides due **Th Oct 31, 2:30pm**
 - Self/peer feedback due **F Nov 1, 11:59pm**
- Everyone else:
 - Support your classmates by coming prepared for the discussion they will lead!
 - Do your best to **read** and **understand**:
 - Measurable RQs
 - Experiment design
 - Results and discussion