

DISCUSSION QUESTION

- 1) What are the different data elicitation techniques for studying first language acquisition?
What are the advantages and disadvantages of each?
 - Naturalistic
 - Prompted production
 - Prompted response
- 2) What is the first stage of language acquisition?
- 3) Using the IPA chart below, can you explain the order of acquisition of different sounds as argued in the article?

		MANNER	VOICING	PLACE						
				Bilabial	Labiodental	Interdental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Obstruent	Stop	Voiceless	p				t		k	ʔ
		Voiced	b				d		g	
	Fricative	Voiceless		f	θ	s	ʃ			h
		Voiced		v	ð	z	ʒ			
	Affricate	Voiceless					tʃ			
		Voiced					dʒ			
Sonorant	Nasal		Voiced	m			n		ŋ	
	Liquid	Lateral	Voiced				l			
		Rhotic	Voiced					r (ɹ)		
	Glide		Voiced	w				j	(w)	

- a. Vowels are acquired before consonants
- b. Stops are acquired before other consonants
- c. Bilabials are acquired before other places of articulation
- d. Phonemic contrast manifests itself more in word initial positions

Table t -aspiration

Water r

Batman

Tablet

p

- 4) What is phonemic awareness? The article argues that “children's ability to perceive phonemic contrasts develops well in advance of their ability to produce them. Can you think of an example of this phenomenon from your past observations?
- 5) Below is a sample of words from the first stages of development of Amahl Smith. Assuming that the child's underlying representations are identical to the adult surface representation, what neutralization processes (processes which ensure that Amahl does not make a distinction which is made in the adult system) affect Amahl's speech at this time. The transcription has been simplified slightly.

Word

apple	/apl/	/ɛbu/
bath	/bɑ:θ/	/bɑ:t/
brush	/brʌʃ/	/brʌt/
bus	/bʌs/	/brʌt/
caravan	/kɑ:ravan/	/gawəwan/
church	/tʃɜ:tʃ/	/dɜ:t/
dark	/dɑ:k/	/gɑ:k/
feet	/fi:t/	/wi:t/
finger	/fɪŋgə/	/wɪŋə/
flower	/flaʊə/	/wawə/
John	/dʒɒn/	/dɒn/
knife	/naɪf/	/maɪp/
leg	/lɛg/	/gɛk/
light	/laɪt/	/daɪt/
nipple	/nɪpl/	/mɪbu/
other	/ʌðə/	/ʌdə/
sing	/sɪŋ/	/gɪŋ/
snake	/sneɪk/	/ŋɛ:k/
sock	/sɒk/	/gɒk/
stop	/stɒp/	/brɒp/
table	/teɪbl/	/be:bu/
taxi	/taksɪ/	/gɛki:/
uncle	/ʌŋkl/	/ʌgu/
write	/raɪt/	/daɪt/
yes	/jɛs/	/dɛt/
zoo	/zu:/	/du:/

Adult pronunciation

Child's pronunciation