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Bilingual Speech Production within the Framework of the Theory of Mind: An Integrated Model

The foundation of bilingual communication is bilingual language processing, and one of the most fundamental questions, therefore, is how bilingual language processing affects bilingual communication. In this paper, I will address one such aspect, and namely, bilingual sentence production per se and how it could be viewed within the general framework of the Theory of Mind. Specifically, Hartsuiker et al. (2006) argued for the integrated model of bilingual sentence production in which lexical items and syntax are stored within one shared speech production model, which stores lemmas, word forms and syntactic information separately but which, nevertheless, interconnects these constituents via combinatorial and syntactic nodes and links. When a conceptual structure is formed, it activates these grammatical structure constituents in both Language 1 and Language 2. Therefore sometimes language-switches occur. This model was experimentally verified then. In this paper, I review the very recent experimental data that supports this model and offer an additional explanation, based on the Tree Adjoining Grammar of Ferreira (2000), computational model of Chang et. al (2006) and the general framework of the Theory of Mind which accounts for bilingual code-switches. Similarly to Hartsuiker et al (2006), I also address the issue of why language switches might not take place during a bilingual communicative act based on the above three models. References Chang, F., Dell, G. S. & Bock, K. (2006). Becoming syntactic. *Psychological Review*, 113 (2), Ferreira, F. (2000). Syntax in language production: An approach using tree-adjoining grammars. In L. R. Wheeldon (ed.) *Aspects of Language Production*. Howe: Psychology Press Hartsuiker, R., Schoonbaert, S. & Pickering, M. J. (2006). Lexical and Syntactic Access in Bilingual Language Production. *Bilingualism and second language acquisition*