

ABSTRACT

EFFECTS OF SEMANTIC FEATURE ANALYSIS TREATMENT ON NAMING ACCURACY AND GENERALIZATION IN AN INDIVIDUAL WITH BILINGUAL ANOMIA

Variations and inconsistencies in clinically oriented research studies in bilingual anomia have made it difficult to determine the benefit of treating two languages. This study investigated naming accuracy, within and across language generalization, and long-term treatment effects, when the anomia of a bilingual individual with anomic aphasia was treated in English and Spanish with a semantic based treatment. A single-subject experimental crossover design was used to examine naming accuracy and generalization patterns during two training phases. Probes conducted at the end of each training phase showed improved naming accuracy of trained and untrained stimuli in the training language and some degree of crosslinguistic generalization. Notably, crosslinguistic generalization to trained items occurred with higher accuracy when an individual's least proficient language was treated, suggesting that this language should be targeted in treatment to achieve greater gains. Posttraining naming probes showed maintenance of naming accuracy in both languages over time.

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