Second Language Acquisition Research Methods

Instructed Second Language Acquisition Research MethodsAn Introduction to Second Language Acquisition ResearchExperimental Methods in Language Acquisition ResearchCurrent Trends in European Second Language Acquisition ResearchThe Psychology of the Language LearnerSecond Language Acquisition ResearchSecond Language Acquisition and the Critical Period HypothesisForeign Language Acquisition Research and the ClassroomAn Introduction to Second Language Acquisition ResearchSecond Language Acquisition MythsKey Topics in Second Language AcquisitionThe Study of Second Language AcquisitionResearch Methods in Second Language AcquisitionSecond Language AcquisitionCurrent Issues in European Second Language Acquisition ResearchThe Comparative Method of Language Acquisition ResearchKey Questions in Second Language AcquisitionLanguage AcquisitionResearch Methods in Language AcquisitionSLA Research and Materials Development for Language Learning Laura Gurzynski-Weiss Diane Larsen-Freeman Elma Blom Hans-Wilhelm Dechert Zoltán Dörnyei Fethi Mansouri David Birdsong Barbara F. Freed Diane Larsen-Freeman Steven Brown Vivian Cook Rod Ellis Alison Mackey Roumyana Slabakova Bernhard Kettemann Clifton Pye Bill VanPatten Diāna Laiveniece Barbara Lust Brian Tomlinson

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written for novice and established scholars alike instructed second language acquisition research methods is a stand alone research methods guide from an instructed second language acquisition isla lens after offering foundations of conducting isla research the subsequent chapters are organized by four skill areas listening speaking reading writing and four major linguistic features grammar vocabulary pronunciation pragmatics in each chapter authors define the target sub domain of isla outline the basics of research design provide concrete guidance on crafting robust research questions identifying appropriate methodology and method s adapting an existing instrument or creating your own carrying out a study analyzing and interpreting data and determining how where when to share your work the volume also dedicates chapters to addressing common inquiries of conducting isla research e g obtaining

ethics permission recruiting your own students working with small and heterogeneous sample sizes accounting for individual differences and to maximizing research impact beyond academia written by leading experts on each topic this book is an essential resource for isla sla and research methods scholars

understanding how people learn and fail to learn second and foreign languages is increasingly recognised as a critical social and psycholinguistic issue this book provides a synthesis of empirical findings on second and foreign language learning by children and adults emphasising the design and execution of appropriate research

experimental methods in language acquisition research provides students and researchers interested in language acquisition with comprehensible and practical information on the most frequently used methods in language acquisition research it includes contributions on first and child adult second language learners language impaired children and on the acquisition of both spoken and signed language part i discusses specific experimental methods explaining the rationale behind each one and providing an overview of potential participants the procedure and data analysis as well as advantages and disadvantages and dos and don ts part ii focuses on comparisons across groups addressing the theoretical applied and methodological issues involved in such comparative work this book will not only be of use to advanced undergraduate and postgraduate students but also to any scholars wishing to learn more about a particular research method it is suitable as a textbook in postgraduate programs in the fields of linguistics education and psychology

this volume assembles controversial research in restricted areas of sla and attempts to convey the richness of methodology and variety of thematic scope in european sla as discussed at an international workshop current trends in european second language acquisition

research results over the past decades have consistently demonstrated that a key reason why many second language learners fail while some learners do better with less effort lies in various learner attributes such as personality traits motivation or language aptitude in psychology these attributes have traditionally been called individual differences the scope of individual learner differences is broad ranging from creativity to learner styles and anxiety yet there is no current comprehensive and unified volume that provides an overview of the considerable amount of research conducted on various language learner differences until now each chapter in this new volume focuses on a different individual difference variable besides a review of the relevant second language literature zoltán dörnyei presents a concise overview of the psychological research involving each topic a key concern for the author has been to define the various learner factors as measurable constructs and therefore the discussion includes a summary of the most famous tests and questionnaires in each domain a wide range of readers will benefit from this book students in linguistics applied linguistics modern languages and psychology programs second language teachers participating in in service training courses and researchers in second language acquisition and psychology

there is a growing interest in second language acquisition sla research in interdisciplinary approaches as that are by theoretical as much as practical need of understanding language learning and performance intellectually second language acquisition research is now a recognised independent field of academic inquiry concerned with cognitive psychological social and pragmatic aspects of the phenomenon of second language development sla research tends to be both highly theoretical

and experimental and as such lends itself well to the rigour of scientific research it is in this context that the use of well articulated theories and concepts is increasingly seen as an essential research and thinking tool for understanding and conducting sla research processability theory pienemann 1998 is one of the more prominent theories that have been applied across a number of second languages the logic underlying processability theory is that at any stage during the developmental process the learner can produce and comprehend only those target language linguistic forms which the current state of the language processor i e the learner lantguage can handle it is therefore crucial to understand the architecture of the language processor and the way in which it handles second language development the chapters included in this book will report on the various technical and theoretical aspects of experimental sla research across a number of typologically different languages the book includes detailed chapters outlining the key theoretical claims and methodological requirements underpiniing this kind of sla research many of the subsequent chapters report procesability theory related studies to the wider field of sla research though the emphasis is on cross linguistic experimental research undertaken within the parameters of processability theory the book nevertheless sheds the light on the nexus between bilingualism and theory driven second language acquisition research

second language acquisition and the critical period hypothesis is the only book on the market to provide a diverse collection of perspectives from experienced researchers on the role of the critical period hypothesis in second language acquisition it is widely believed that age effects in both first and second language acquisition are developmental in nature with native levels of attainment in both to be though possible only if learning began before the closure of a window of opportunity a critical or sensitive period these seven chapters explore this idea at length with each contribution acting as an authoritative look at various domains of inquiry in second language acquisition including syntax morphology phonetics phonology universal grammar and neurofunctional factors by presenting readers with an evenly balanced take on the topic with viewpoints both for and against the critical period hypothesis this book is the ideal guide to understanding this critical body of research in sla for students and researchers in applied linguistics and second language acquisition

foreign language acquisition research and the classroom assembles 24 papers covering topics such as communication in the foreign language classroom the role of grammar in communication cultural competence current methodologies and approaches to foreign language acquisition research design and implementation of the model in the classroom environment

understanding how people learn and fail to learn second and foreign languages is increasingly recognised as a critical social and psycholinguistic issue second languages are vitally important to diverse groups of people ranging from refugees to college students facing foreign language requirements this book provides a synthesis of empirical findings on second and foreign language learning by children and adults emphasising the design and execution of appropriate research

this volume was conceived as a first book in sla for advanced undergraduate or introductory master s courses that include education majors foreign language education majors and english majors it s also an excellent resource for practicing teachers both the research and pedagogy in this book are based on the newest research in the field of second language acquisition it is not the goal of this book to address

every sla theory or teach research methodology it does however address the myths and questions that non specialist teacher candidates have about language learning steven brown is the co author of the introductory applied linguistics textbook understanding language structure interaction and variation textbook and workbook the myths challenged in this book are children learn languages quickly and easily while adults are ineffective in comparison a true bilingual is someone who speaks two languages perfectly you can acquire a language simply through listening or reading practice makes perfect language students learn and retain what they are taught language learners always benefit from correction individual differences are a major perhaps the major factor in sla language acquisition is the individual acquisition of grammar

this textbook offers an introductory overview of eight hotly debated topics in second language acquisition research it offers a glimpse of how sla researchers have tried to answer common questions about second language acquisition rather than being a comprehensive introduction to sla research each chapter comprises an introductory discussion of the issues involved and suggestions for further reading and study the reader is asked to consider the issues based on their own experiences thus allowing them to compare their own intuitions and experiences with established research findings and gain an understanding of methodology the topics are treated independently so that they can be read in any order that interests the reader the topics in question are how different languages connect in the mind whether there is a best age for learning a second language the importance of grammar in acquiring and using a second language how the words of a second language are acquired how people learn to write in a second language how attitude and motivation help in learning a second language the usefulness of second language acquisition research for language teaching the goals of language teaching

this thorough introduction to second language research provides a comprehensive review of the research into learner language internal and external factors in language acquisition individual differences and classroom second language learning

research methods in second language acquisition with its cornucopia of information both thorough and practical this book is a must for our methodology shelves its study questions and project suggestions will be a boon for many research methods courses robert m dekeysevr university of maryland this guide to collecting coding and analyzing second language acquisition data will be an essential reference for novice and experienced researchers alike peter robinson aoyama gakuin university comprehensive and technically up to date yet accessible and cogent this remarkable textbook is sure to become a premier choice for the research training of many future sla generations lourdes ortega university of hawaii alison mackey and susan gass valuable new book offers hands on methodological guidance from established experts on all kinds of second language research michael h long university of maryland research methods in second language acquisition a practical guide is an informative guide to research design and methodology in this growing and vibrant field utilizing research methods and tools from varied fields of study including education linguistics psychology and sociology this collection offers complete coverage of the techniques of second language acquisition research this guide covers a variety of topics such as second language writing and reading meta analyses research replication qualitative data collection and analysis and more each chapter of this volume offers background step by step guidance and relevant studies to create comprehensive coverage of each method this carefully selected and edited volume will be a useful text for graduate students and scholars looking to keep pace with the latest research projects and methodologies in second language acquisition

this textbook approaches second language acquisition from the perspective of generative linguistics roumyana slabakova reviews and discusses paradigms and findings from the last thirty years of research in the field focussing in particular on how the second or additional language is represented in the mind and how it is used in communication the adoption and analysis of a specific model of acquisition the bottleneck hypothesis provides a unifying perspective the book assumes some non technical knowledge of linguistics but important concepts are clearly introduced and defined throughout making it a valuable resource not only for undergraduate and graduate students of linguistics but also for researchers in cognitive science and language teachers

the mayan family of languages is ancient and unique with their distinctive relational nouns positionals and complex grammatical voices they are quite alien to english and have never been shown to be genetically related to other new world tongues these qualities clifton pye shows afford a particular opportunity for linguistic insight both an overview of lessons pye has gleaned from more than thirty years of studying how children learn mayan languages as well as a strong case for a novel method of researching crosslinguistic language acquisition more broadly this book demonstrates the value of a close granular analysis of a small language lineage for untangling the complexities of first language acquisition pye here applies the comparative method to three mayan languages k iche mam and ch ol showing how differences in the use of verbs are connected to differences in the subject markers and pronouns used by children and adults his holistic approach allows him to observe how small differences between the languages lead to significant differences in the structure of the children s lexicon and grammar and to learn why that is so more than this he expects that such careful scrutiny of related languages variable solutions to specific problems will yield new insights into how children acquire complex grammars studying such an array of related languages he argues is a necessary condition for understanding how any particular language is used studying languages in isolation comparing them only to one s native tongue is merely collecting linguistic curiosities

this highly accessible introductory textbook carefully explores the main issues that have driven the field of second language acquisition research intended for students with little or no background in linguistics or psycholinguistics it explains important linguistic concepts and how and why they are relevant to second language acquisition topics are presented via a key questions structure that enables the reader to understand how these questions have motivated research in the field and the problems to which researchers are seeking solutions it provides a complete package for any introductory course on second language acquisition

this volume brings together a selection of articles about research conducted on language acquisition in the baltic states namely in latvia and lithuania a field which has witnessed massive growth in recent years the book begins with an introduction which specifies the problems investigated by the contributions in order to acquaint the reader with current issues and research in linguodidactics and applied linguistics the volume will particularly appeal to scholars of language acquisition as well as anyone interested in research and practical activities concerning language education in the baltic states the papers compiled here are grouped into five sections language acquisition in the context

of bilingualism and multilingualism pedagogical factors of language acquisition research on literacy language acquisition at an early age and research in linguodidactics to assist language acquisition this volume will stimulate the reader to ask questions think of solutions argue and propose counterarguments with regards to language acquisition in this region the driving force in this field is dialogue and argumentative discussion not utilitarian notes and advice and through detailing a range of views on language acquisition problems and perspectives the book achieves that aim

language acquisition research is challenging the intricate behavioral and cognitive foundations of speech are difficult to measure objectively the audible components of speech however are quantifiable and thus provide crucial data this practical guide synthesizes the authors decades of experience into a comprehensive set of tools that will allow students and early career researchers in the field to design and conduct rigorous studies that produce reliable and valid speech data and interpretations the authors thoroughly review specific techniques for obtaining qualitative and quantitative speech data including how to tailor the testing environments for optimal results they explore observational tasks for collecting natural speech and experimental tasks for eliciting specific types of speech language comprehension tasks are also reviewed so researchers can study participants interpretations of speech and conceptualizations of grammar most tasks are oriented towards children but special considerations for infants are also reviewed as well as multilingual children chapters also provide strategies for transcribing and coding raw speech data into reliable data sets that can be scientifically analyzed furthermore they investigate the intricacies of interpretation so that researchers can make empirically sound inferences from their data and avoid common pitfalls that can lead to unscientific conclusions

sla research and materials development for language learning is the only book available to focus on the interaction between second language acquisition theory and materials development for language learning it consists of contributions written by experts in sla experts in materials development researchers who have expertise in both fields and introductions and conclusions by the editor the book is organized into four major sections position statements materials driven by sla theory evaluations of materials in relation to sla theory and proposals for action that offer a diverse range of perspectives while maintaining a cohesive and comprehensive overview on the subject this book is ideal for post graduate courses in applied linguistics and second language acquisition and for researchers interested in the relationship between sla and materials development

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