Looking at IL Data

Looking at IL Data

- Data analysis
- What data analysis doesn't reveal
- Data collection
- Data elicitation
- Replication
- Issues in data analysis
- What is acquisition?

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Data Analysis

- What does data analysis involve?
  - Treating learners' language as if it were a new foreign language
  - Examining carefully the writing or speech of second language learners
  - Trying to discover the patterns in their language
  - Not assuming that learners are using the same patterns as native speakers

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Data Analysis

1. Plurals

2. Verb + *–ing*

3. Prepositions

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Data Set I: Plurals

When do these learners use *–s* to mark plural nouns?

Why do these learners sometimes use *–s* and sometimes use *zero* on plural nouns?

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Data Set II: Verb + *-ing*

When do these learners add *–ing* to verbs?

What else do they add to the base form of the verb?

Why do these learners sometimes add –ing and sometimes use the base form of the verb?

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Data Set III: Prepositions

In sentences (30) through (39), what are the differences between the way these prepositions are used in English and in the language of these learners?

ago, at, before, for, from, in, of, on, since, til, to, and with

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Data Set IV: Expressing Past Time

- In this narrative by a single speaker,

  – When does the speaker indicate past time with a past tense?
  – When does she not indicate past time on the verb?
  – What is the reason for the variation?

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What Data Analysis Doesn't Reveal

- Is the data spoken or written?
- Do the learners have the same L1?
- Do the learners have the same proficiency in English?
- How was the data elicited?
- What was the linguistic context?
- How often did the learner produce this form?

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Data Collection

Qualitative Paradigm	Quantitative Paradigm
• Observation	• Experimentation
• Subjective	• Objective
• "Insider" perspective	• "Outsider" perspective
• Process oriented	• Outcome oriented
• Holistic	• Particularistic
• Case studies	• Generalizable

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Data Collection

Longitudinal studies …	Cross-sectional studies …
focus on the development of a few learners over a period of time.	focus on learners' knowledge at a single point in time.

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Data Elicitation

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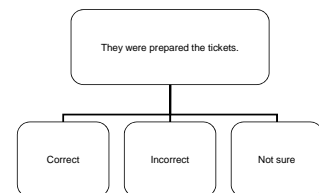## Data Elicitation

- • Language tests

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Data Elicitation

- • Language tests

- • Tests from psychology

17

Data Elicitation

- • Language tests

- • Tests from psychology

- • Acceptability judgments

They were prepared the tickets.

Correct	Incorrect	Not sure

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Data Elicitation

- Three <u>different</u> kinds of acceptability judgment tests
    1. Absolute judgments:
        - "This sentence is acceptable."
        - "This sentence is not acceptable."
    2. Comparative judgments:
        - "This sentence is more acceptable than that one."
    3. Ranking:
        - "Sentence A is more acceptable than sentence B, and sentence B is more acceptable than sentence C."

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Data Elicitation

- Compare grammaticality judgments with judgments of cuteness. What kind of judgments are these?

    1. He's cute.
    2. Derek is cuter than Andrew.
    3. He's a dawg!
    4. Mark's the cutest, then Derek, and then Andrew.

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Data Elicitation

- <u>Workbook Problem 1.1: Acceptability Judgments</u>

- Part One
    – Compare two sentences. Which is more acceptable?
- Part Two
    – Make absolute judgments. Is the sentence acceptable or not?
- Part Three
    – Rank six sentences in order of acceptability.

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Replication

"The essence of the scientific method involves observations that can be repeated and verified by others."

Looking at IL Data

- ✓ Data analysis
- ✓ What data analysis doesn't reveal
- ✓ Data collection
- ✓ Data elicitation
- ✓ Replication
- Issues in data analysis
- What is acquisition?

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Issues in Data Analysis

- How do we measure L2 development?

- Does IL development mean moving toward a target L2?

- In analyzing interlanguage, do we count errors of overgeneralization?

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Looking at IL Data

✓ Data analysis
✓ What data analysis doesn't reveal
✓ Data collection
✓ Data elicitation
✓ Replication
✓ Issues in data analysis
• What is acquisition?

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What is Acquisition?

"It is not just the point at which something is acquired that is of interest, but it is also important to consider the stages that a learner goes through in acquiring a particular form."

Looking at IL Data

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✓ What data analysis doesn't reveal
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✓ Issues in data analysis
✓ What is acquisition?

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Seven Approaches to SLA Research reviewed by Alister Cumming

1. Analysis of learner's language
2. Verbal reports on learner strategies
3. Text analysis
4. Classroom interaction analysis
5. Ethnography
6. Critical pedagogy
7. Action research

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Seven Approaches to SLA Research reviewed by Alister Cumming

Descriptive
   1. Analysis of learner's language
   2. Verbal reports on learner strategies
   3. Text analysis
Interpretive
   4. Classroom interaction analysis
   5. Ethnography
Ideological
   6. Critical pedagogy
   7. Action research

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Seven Approaches to SLA Research reviewed by Alister Cumming

- For each of these approaches,

  – What is the data?
  – How is the data collected or elicited?
  – Is the approach <u>quantitative or qualitative</u>?
  – Is the data collection <u>longitudinal or cross-sectional</u>?

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