
Local versus global reasons for disfluency: Feeling of another's knowing in native and non-native speakers

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Abstract

How speech is delivered impacts listeners' perception of speakers' confidence in their knowledge (Brennan & Williams, 1995). Here, we explore whether non-native speakers, who are more disfluent (de Jong, 2016), would also be evaluated as less knowledgeable, or if comprehenders would be more lenient (Fairchild et al., 2020). In this project, we measure listeners' feeling of another's knowing by having participants bet on horses following a native and a non-native speaker's information, produced fluently and disfluently. We hypothesize that, when misattributing the causes of disfluency does not entail a cost for the listener, non-native speakers' disfluencies might be forgiven.

Keywords: disfluency, epistemic vigilance, foreign accent

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