
Expectations about upcoming content: The role of the addressee

Vilde Reksnes^{*†1}, Alice Rees¹, Chris Cummins¹, and Hannah Rohde¹

¹University of Edinburgh – United Kingdom

Abstract

Research on typicality shows seemingly contradictory patterns: comprehenders anticipate real-world typical content (Kamide et al. 2003) but this is less frequent in speakers' productions (Brown & Dell 1987). However, recent work shows evidence of comprehenders' attention to speaker preferences, apparent in their anticipation and processing of non-typical content (e.g. Rohde et al. 2021, 2022). Additionally, the more the speaker's role as an intentional communicator is emphasised, the more comprehenders expect contributions about non-typical content, i.e., content that is cooperatively informative (Authors, submitted). Here, we show that this informativity expectation is modulated by whether the addressee is an adult or child.

Keywords: anticipation, discourse processing, informativity

*Speaker

†Corresponding author: vilde.reksnes@ed.ac.uk