
Different fixation patterns for different adjective types in English, Hindi and Hungarian

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Abstract

Contrastive inference effects (where participants anticipate an object from a visual grid when hearing an adjective based on the presence of a contrasting object) have been reported to arise with scalar adjectives. Additionally, Sedivy (2004) found contrastive effects with scalar and material adjectives, but not with color adjectives. However, Aparicio et al. (2016) and Ryskin et al. (2021) observed effects with both scalar and color adjectives. In the current study, we sought further evidence by collecting data in English, Hindi and Hungarian. Our results show contrastive inference effects across languages for relative and color adjectives, but not for material adjectives.

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