Acknowledgements



doi https://doi.org/10.1075/lald.55.05ack

Pages xix-xx of

Understanding Interfaces: Second language acquisition and first language attrition of Spanish subject realization and word order variation

Laura Domínguez

[Language Acquisition and Language Disorders, 55] 2013. XX, 267 pp.



This electronic file may not be altered in any way. For any reuse of this material written permission should be obtained from the publishers or through the Copyright Clearance Center (for USA: www.copyright.com).

For further information, please contact rights@benjamins.nl or consult our website at benjamins.com/rights



Acknowledgements

I would like to thank a number of people who have played an important role in the development of this book. First, I would like to express my gratitude to the Department of Modern Languages and the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Southampton for granting me extended research leave in 2010 so that I could write this book. I am very fortunate to be part of such a supportive institution.

The oral acquisition data used in this book was collected by the SPLLOC (Spanish Learner Language Oral Corpora) project. This corpus has been compiled thanks to the support of two research grants provided by the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). I am very grateful to the entire SPLLOC team, and in particular to Rosamond Mitchell and Florence Myles, for their support since my arrival in the UK. Special thanks to María J. Arche for her friendship and for joining me in useful discussions which have shaped some of the important ideas proposed in this book. I am also grateful to the British Academy for giving me a grant to support the attrition study. I am particularly indebted to Ana Roca, Mileidis Gort, Rafael Pascual, Alicia Pozo-Gutiérrez, Gerardo López and Mercedes Ruiz Casas for their help in recruiting participants in Miami and in the UK. I would also like to thank the more than one hundred participants who took part in these two studies and, in particular, the native Spanish speakers in the UK and in Miami who shared their very personal stories with me during our interviews. Meeting them was motivated by linguistic analysis, but in the process it was a privilege for me to hear their remarkable tales of anxiety, migration, transition and triumph.

Thanks to Victor Manfredi for introducing me to the study of focus and for being a very special mentor. Special thanks to Glyn Hicks for his very useful discussions on Minimalism and for his detailed and careful feedback on several chapters of this book. I am very lucky to have Glyn as a close colleague. Special thanks also to Roumyana Slabakova and Kevin McManus, who read and commented on the entire manuscript, and to Alejandro Cuza for providing very useful insights on the chapter on attrition. Other colleagues and friends read some parts of this manuscript and I am grateful for their feedback and comments. These include the linguistics graduate students in the 'Syntax and Language Acquisition reading group' at the University of Southampton, in particular Hee-Song Jeong, Annis

Shepherd and Maria Veale. Dr Beth Stuart spent quite a bit of time helping with the statistical analyses carried out in the book, and I thank her for her expertise and advice. I am also grateful to Annis Shepherd and Adrian Stenton for proof-reading the entire manuscript and providing very useful comments.

Thanks to Kees Vaes for his advice throughout the life of this book and to Lydia White and Harald Clahsen for allowing me to publish it in this series. The book has been much improved by the very detailed feedback provided by Lydia and two anonymous reviewers.

A final thanks to my family in Spain and in the UK for supporting me through the years. My husband, Dr Richard A. Watson, deserves a special mention for being the best friend and partner anyone could wish for. My final thanks go to my children Blake and Ian; this book is dedicated to them.

Southampton, 26 November 2012