

Scientific Reports for Short Visit Grant application 4233

Dr Kriszta Szendroi
UCL

- Purpose of the visit

To discuss potential methods for experimenting the acquisition of focus with behavioural measures in 3-year-olds and 5-year olds in three languages: French, German and English.

- Description of the work carried out during the visit

We reviewed the available literature on the acquisition of focus and discussed several different methodologies available to test production and comprehension of focus in young children. Based on a thorough evaluation we agreed to use a picture verification task. We then worked on the experimental materials: choice of sentences, objects, characters.

- Description of the main results obtained

We finalised the methodology to be used in the three proposed experiments. We made substantial progress in determining the actual material, including choosing characters and objects that would be appropriate for the children in the three different countries: Germany, France and England.

- Future collaboration with host institution (*if applicable*)

We are planning to pilot and run the experiment in the Autumn and develop a further study using eye tracking. We agreed that it would be highly beneficial to travel to have further short visits to observe each other when the methodology has been piloted, to review the methodology and to ensure that the exact same procedure is followed across the three sites.

- Projected publications/articles resulting or to result from the grant (ESF must be acknowledged in publications resulting from the grantee's work in relation with the grant).

A joint journal article by the three participants: Professor Barbara Hoehle (Potsdam), Dr Judit Gervain (CNRS, Paris Descartes) and myself.

- Other comments (*if any*)