

Table 2.

Experiment One: Mean sum scores (and standard deviations) for selection of idiomatic response option by age group and condition.

Context:	Familiar				Novel			
	Transparent		Opaque		Transparent		Opaque	
	absent	present	absent	present	absent	present	absent	present
7-8 year-olds	1.15 (.93)	2.50* (1.10)	.85 (.75)	1.65 (1.14)	1.70 (1.29)	2.40* (.99)	1.10 (.85)	2.30 (1.22)
9-10 year-olds	3.10* (1.07)	3.30* (1.38)	1.30 (.98)	2.90* (1.29)	3.05* (.99)	3.50* (1.19)	1.50 (1.10)	2.95* (1.05)
Adults	5.68* (.48)	5.63* (.50)	4.74* (1.05)	5.95* (.23)	5.68* (.48)	5.68* (.58)	1.95 (.97)	5.26* (.99)

Note. Maximum score = 6. * denotes significantly greater than chance

Table 3.

Experiment One: Mean sum scores (and expressed as a percentage of errors) for selection of incorrect response options for context absent vs present by age group and condition.

Context:	Familiar				Novel			
	Transparent		Opaque		Transparent		Opaque	
	absent	present	absent	present	absent	present	absent	present
<i>Contextually plausible</i>								
7-8 year olds	.55 (12%)	1.55 (44%)	1.45 (27%)	2.05 (48%)	1.20 (28%)	2.20 (63%)	1.35 (30%)	2.20 (56%)
9-10 year olds	1.20 (43%)	1.45 (60%)	1.90 (40%)	1.60 (53%)	1.40 (49%)	1.10 (42%)	1.65 (36%)	1.75 (60%)
<i>Contextually implausible</i>								
7-8 year olds	1.65 (33%)	1.50 (45%)	1.40 (27%)	1.40 (33%)	1.30 (30%)	.75 (20%)	.85 (19%)	.40 (12%)
9-10 year olds	.95 (33%)	1.10 (35%)	1.35 (30%)	1.00 (35%)	1.00 (33%)	1.05 (46%)	1.30 (29%)	.95 (30%)
<i>Literal</i>								
7-8 year olds	2.65 (55%)	.45 (12%)	2.30 (45%)	.90 (19%)	1.80 (41%)	.65 (17%)	2.70 (52%)	1.05 (31%)
9-10 year olds	.75 (24%)	.15 (6%)	1.45 (31%)	.50 (13%)	.55 (19%)	.35 (13%)	1.55 (35%)	.35 (11%)

Note. Percentages have been rounded up or down to a whole number.

Table 4.

Experiment Two: Mean sum scores (and standard deviations) for selection of idiomatic response option by age group and condition.

Context:	Familiar				Novel			
	Transparent		Opaque		Transparent		Opaque	
	absent	present	absent	present	absent	present	absent	present
7-8 year-olds	3.55*	3.65*	2.35	3.25*	3.25*	3.75*	1.90	3.95*
	(1.57)	(1.37)	(1.27)	(1.29)	(.91)	(1.38)	(1.07)	(1.05)
9-10 year-olds	3.35*	4.25*	2.25	3.70*	3.40*	4.50*	2.20	3.50*
	(1.57)	(1.45)	(1.02)	(1.26)	(1.32)	(1.34)	(1.28)	(1.57)
11-12 year-olds	4.82*	4.59*	3.50*	4.18*	4.18*	4.32*	2.41	3.82*
	(1.10)	(1.50)	(1.34)	(1.56)	(1.44)	(1.55)	(1.18)	(1.44)

Note. Maximum score = 6. *denotes significantly greater than chance