



GSJ: Volume 7, Issue 12, December 2019, Online: ISSN 2320-9186
www.globalscientificjournal.com

ACTION NAMING IN COORGI-ENGLISH BILINGUALS

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ABSTRACT

Language is a complex and symbolic system that is used in various modes for thought and communication. India has many cultural setups with different languages in each area. In some regions more than one language co-exists together. Bilingualism and multilingualism are thus a major phenomenon in India. Bilingualism has been defined predominantly in linguistic dimensions despite the fact that the bilingualism is correlated with the number of nonlinguistic social parameters. Bloomfield (1935) defines bilinguals as the native like control of two languages.

The aim of the recent study is to identify: Their language development in L1 (Coorgi) and L2 (English) from background populations in grade 4-16 years. It was conducted to examine the relationship between bilingualism and cognitive development. .Identify the verbal processing based on their language experience and their age.

Method done in action naming was: total 40 pictures were presented to 60 participants from the age range 4-16 years and they were divided into four groups containing n=15 participants in each group. The words were taken based on daily basis with 80% agreement in both Coorgi-English and the others were eliminated. They were presented based on few conditions that are: blocked Coorgi (n=10), blocked English (n=10), Coorgi to English (n=10), and English to Coorgi (n=10).

Result on the whole, was consistent with the theory, in that an overall bilingual superiority was found only for those children who had attained a high degree of bilingualism. An overall bilingual superiority was not found for those children who had attained lower degrees of bilingualism.

Conclusion of the study is to find how action naming occurs in both low competition (single language) task and high competition (mixed language) and how language development plays a role in verb processing and cognitive processing in bilinguals. Action naming is better in blocked English to Coorgi than in mixed condition in younger age group and also in older age groups.