Sentential Word order in Iranian Persian-speaking Children under the Age of School

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This study aims at the investigation of first language acquisition by Iranian male pre-schoolers by using and referring to their uttered sentences. The purpose of this study is to explore whether (a) sentential word order in Persian speaking children under the age of school is significant and systematic and (b) there are any significant differences between children and adults with regard to their sentential word order. In order to collect the relevant data 30 Iranian males (3-5) year of age participated in the study. A pictorial book was given to them to take a look at its pictures and narrate the story in their own sentences. Their sentences were recorded and transcribed for syntactic analysis. Sentences were classified then as statements, imperatives, negative, active, passive, interrogative, exclamatory and declarative. The numbers of sentences for each category were different. The results were analyzed within the structure of P&P model. Since there was just one group in this study the percentage of systematicity in children’s sentential word order and also their differences with Persian adults were calculated by ranking less or more than 50. The results show that in this sample and small group, there are some salient differences between Persian adults and children at the time of producing and uttering different kind of sentences, eg: In imperative sentences, (VO/VOS) is systematic and significant word order and there are significant differences in sentential word order, produced by Persian adults and children under the age of school. And also Collected yes/no question form sentences show that QSV is the preferred and formal word order and there aren’t any significant differences in sentential word order.
order, produced by Persian adults and children under the age of school. Persian children used (NO) at the beginning of nearly all of their negative sentences. Which means it can be a constituent of their word order. In negative sentences, in short answer part, (NO) is used. But, there is (NO) in all kind of children’s sentences