Order of acquisition in terms of formal features: A minimalist approach to the study of (L1 Persian) English interlanguage

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There has been an ongoing discussion in the field of second language acquisition of whether or not learners acquire a foreign language in a natural order which is supposedly common to all language learners. Present study is a new attempt to search for an order of acquisition in terms of formal features and a minimalist explanation to explicate the reason. Recently the role of formal features has led to considerable interest in the field of language acquisition. Therefore this study attempted to investigate whether feature or not. The study proceeded into two phases: a cross-sectional phase and a longitudinal one. 100 Persian speaking participants majoring in English translation at the University of Khorasgan participated in the study, among which 90 participated in the cross-sectional phase and 10 in the longitudinal phase. In order to investigate the acquisition order of features, four interpretable and four non-interpretable features were detected in the compositions of the participants.