

Pre-conference workshop on "Corpora and SLA"

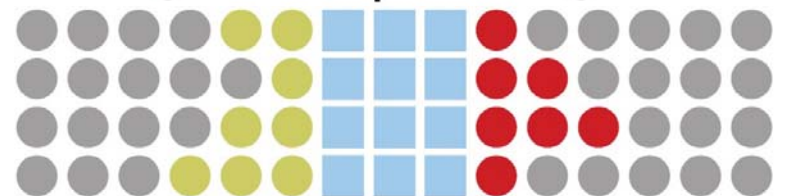
Introduction

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Michigan Corpus Linguistics



Introduction

- On usage-based linguistics and language acquisition:

"If this view [the usage-based approach] is correct, the use of corpora will strengthen natural processes of language acquisition in that they make it easier for learners to notice and experience repeated instances of use." (Johansson 2009: 39)

- Not enough research at the interface of CL and SLA
- Workshop aims to bring corpus and SLA ideas (and people) closer together

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Introduction

Central issues in second/foreign lg. acquisition

- Learner language/interlanguage
- Error analysis
- Developmental patterns/proficiency development
- Learner external & internal factors
- Input and intake
- Implicit and explicit learning
- Process of learning (e.g. incidental vs. intentional)
- Individual differences/variation
- L1 influence on SLA
- Data collection in SLA/measuring SLA

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Introduction

A few open questions

- What can corpora do for SLA?
- How useful are they for SLA research?
- What types of corpora (organized/annotated in what ways) are needed by SLA researchers?
- Which corpus tools could/do SLA researchers use?
- Which central SLA topics can be addressed from a corpus perspective?
- What are the limitations of corpus use in SLA work?



Introduction

This workshop...

- ... aims to address some of these questions
- ... discusses how different types of corpora can be used in SLA research
- ... provides a forum for discussion of related issues

Topics include:

- Existing and required corpus resources for SLA
- Analysis of learner input and intake
- Learner corpora and variables
- Proficiency development and phraseology

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The presentations

1. Introduction (Ute Römer)
2. Central issues in Corpora and SLA – Analysing the input, the intake, and the reasons for their differences (Nick Ellis)
3. Focus on learner corpora and variables in SLA (Fanny Meunier)

COFFEE BREAK (30 mins.)

4. Proficiency development and the phraseology of learner language (Matt O'Donnell & Ute Römer)
(timeline on your handout)

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