

Reduction in Children and Adults: Mapping Complexity

Adriana Belletti

University of Siena

Fewer words may not always reflect simpler syntactic computations. Different experimental results from acquisition studies point to this conclusion. Conversely, longer and richer expressions are sometimes surprisingly preferred by young children in some circumstances. In this talk I will review some relevant cases pointing to this conclusion, with particular reference to clausal reduction (as in e.g. Reduced Relative Clauses/RRC), selection and smuggling (as in e.g. in passive of the causative type).