

Performance Report
Laura APNF (2)
Age: 9;0, Grade: 3

Language Sample Analysis with SALT Software

Elicitation Task and Database Overview

Laura completed a narrative story retell of 'A Porcupine Named Fluffy' (Lester, 1986). She listened to the story and then retold the story using her own words. Measures of sample length, intelligibility, narrative structure, syntax/morphology, semantics, verbal facility, and errors were calculated from her language sample and compared with samples from 41 speakers completing the same task. These speakers were within 6 months of Laura's age. Although most measures were calculated from the entire sample, a few measures, such as total pause time and number of errors, can be affected by different sample lengths, i.e., the longer the sample, the more opportunity to produce them. For these measures, Laura's sample was compared with a subset of 34 samples matched in length by the same number of words. All measures were interpreted using a standard deviation interval of 1.00 SD.

Transcript Length

Laura produced 47 utterances using a total of 269 words, compared with database means of 47.63 utterances using 396 words for the same task. Her number of utterances was within normal limits, and her number of words was 1.36 SD lower than the database mean. She took 4 minutes and 33 seconds to complete this task, which was within normal limits.

Intelligibility

Laura's sample was 100% intelligible.

Macro Analysis

The Narrative Scoring Scheme was used to assess the structure and content of Laura's narrative. The following categories were included: introduction, character development, mental states, referencing, conflict resolution, cohesion, and conclusion. Laura's composite score of 23 out of a possible 35 points was within normal limits. She demonstrated particular difficulty with the category of mental states.

Syntax/Morphology

Laura's mean length of utterance (MLU) in words was 5.51, which was 1.84 SD below the database mean of 7.45. Most frequently, she used 4-word, 5-word, and 7-word utterances. Her MLU in morphemes was 6.34, which was 1.78 SD below the database mean of 8.38. 100.0% of Laura's utterances contained verbs with an average of 1.40 verbs per utterance. The percent of utterances with verbs was within normal limit while the average number of verbs per utterance was lower than the database mean by 1.00 SD. Laura's sample was scored for subordination index (SI), which measures the average number of clauses per utterance. In general, higher SI scores indicate increased use of complex syntax. Laura yielded an SI score of 1.29, which was within normal limits. Her most complex utterance contained 4 clauses. For example:

C The rhinoceros said, "Ah it/'s ah :03 um {C laughs in character} it/'s oh I/'m laugh/ing too hard".

Semantics

Laura used 102 different words (NDW) within an analysis set of 259 total words. This compares with database means of 128 different words within 341 total words to complete the same task. NDW can be affected by the length of the sample, so the moving-average NDW was calculated by averaging NDW across the sample, looking at each set of 100 words. Laura produced a moving-average NDW of 54, which was within the normal limits, indicating typical vocabulary diversity.

Verbal Facility

Laura's rate of speech, at 59 words per minute, was slower than the database mean by 1.79 SD. Her sample contained 10 within-utterance pauses for a total time of 38 seconds, with an average pause time of 3.80 seconds. The total number of pauses and total pause time were both more than 3 SD higher than the database mean, while the average pause time was within normal limits. Her sample also contained 15 between-utterance pauses for a total time of 52 seconds, with an average pause time of 3.47 seconds. The total number of between-utterance pauses and total pause time were both higher than the database mean by 2.62 SD and 2.51 SD, respectively, while the average pause time was within normal limits. Pause time as a percent of total time was 33.0%, which was 2.97 SD higher than the database mean of 9.3%. A high number of pauses may indicate difficulty with word retrieval and/or utterance formulation. In Laura's sample, 7.2% of the words were filled pauses, false starts, repetitions, or reformulations. This was a strength at 1.04 SD lower than the database mean of 13.3%.

Errors

10.6% of Laura's utterances contained errors, which was comparable to her database peers. Her sample contained the following pronoun error HIM[EP:HIMSELF] and the following other word-level errors: A[EW:AN], MAYBE[EW:OF], MRS_AND_MRS_PORCUPINE[EW:MR_AND_MRS_PORCUPINE], and NAME/ING[EW:NAMED].

GOAL BANK Based on Transcript

SLPs should use clinical judgment when reviewing and selecting goals for the target speaker. The following goals can be edited in this report window.

SYNTAX/MORPHOLOGY

Given a story retell opportunity, Laura will increase mean length of utterance in morphemes from 6.34 to 7.23, improving expressive language skills as measured by language sample data.

SEMANTICS

Given a story retell opportunity, Laura will use adverbs in sentences with 80% accuracy in 3 consecutive sessions, improving expressive language skills as measured by language sample data.

Given a story retell opportunity, Laura will use prepositions in sentences with 80% accuracy in 3 consecutive sessions, improving expressive language skills as measured by language sample data.

Given a story retell opportunity, Laura will use coordinators in sentences with 80% accuracy in 3 consecutive sessions, improving expressive language skills as measured by language sample data.

Given a story retell opportunity, Laura will use subordinators in sentences with 80% accuracy in 3 consecutive sessions, improving expressive language skills as measured by language sample data.