

## **The Repetition of New Words and Information in Mandarin-Speaking Children: A Corpus-Based Study**

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**Abstract :** Repetition is used for a variety of functions in conversation. When young children first learn to speak, they often repeat words from the adult's recent utterance with the learning and social function. The objective of this study was to ascertain whether the repetitions are equivalent in indicating attention to new words and the initial repeat of information in conversation. Based on the observation of naturally occurring language use in Taiwan Corpus of Child Mandarin (TCCM), the results in this study provided empirical support to the previous findings that children are more likely to repeat new words they are offered than to repeat new information. When children get older, there would be a drop in the repetition of both new words and new information.

**Keywords :** acquisition, corpus, mandarin, new words, new information, repetition

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