

## Supplemental Text 2. Full coding system.

1. Overall imitation coding
  - a. Accuracy
    - i. Unscorable
      1. *No attempt* - no attempt at imitation made or response of "I don't know"
      2. *Off-target* - imitation attempt deemed to be unrelated to the target (e.g., we don't throw rocks)
      3. *Ambiguous* - imitation attempts that contained one or more unintelligible or ambiguous elements that rendered the clause uninterpretable (e.g., the girl xx kitchen, xx clean the kitchen)
    - ii. Correct - all components of the target item in the same sequence as the input clause
    - iii. Incorrect - any deviation from verbatim imitation, with the exception of the *a/the* adjustment
  - b. Grammaticality
    - i. Grammatical - the response, regardless of accuracy of imitation, constituted a grammatical clause based on the adult grammar
    - ii. Ungrammatical - at least one component varied from that which is considered grammatical were coded as an ungrammatical response (e.g., *\*the girl clean the kitchen*)
2. Noun phrase imitation coding
  - a. Accuracy
    - i. Correct - contained all elements of the target noun phrase in the same sequence as the target
    - ii. Incorrect - one or more deviations from the target noun phrase
  - b. Grammaticality
    - i. Grammatical - regardless of imitation accuracy, were grammatical based on the adult grammar
    - ii. Ungrammatical - one or more element of the component was incorrectly imitated resulting in an ungrammatical noun phrase (e.g., *\*womans* or *\*a girls*)
3. Verb root imitation - preceding noun phrase and finiteness marking accuracy were not considered
  - a. Accuracy
    - i. Correct – matched target verb root
    - ii. Incorrect – did not match target verb root
  - b. Grammaticality
    - i. Grammatical - constituted a real verb
    - ii. Ungrammatical - ambiguous or non-real verbs (e.g., *smide* for *hide*)
  - c. Familiarity
    - i. Familiar – target familiar verbs or substituted verbs (e.g., *love* for *lug*)
    - ii. Unfamiliar - target unfamiliar verbs
    - iii. Ambiguous - not recognizable as attempts at familiar or unfamiliar real verbs

4. Finiteness marking imitation - not conducted on verb roots that were coded as *ambiguous*
  - a. Accuracy
    - i. Correct - imitation attempts containing the target *-s* morpheme
    - ii. Incorrect – imitation attempts not containing the target *-s* morpheme
  - b. Grammaticality - considers the number of the subject produced in the same clause but not whether the subject was grammatical (e.g., *womans* for *woman* or *her* for *girl*)
    - i. Grammatical – presence or absence of the finiteness marker matches the requirement of the subject
      1. Third-person subject with overt finiteness marker (e.g., *the girl hides*); first-person, second-person or plural subject with a bare stem (e.g., *the girls hide*)
    - ii. Ungrammatical - presence or absence of the finiteness marker does *not* match the requirement of the subject
      1. Third-person subject with a bare stem (e.g., *\*the girl hide*); first-person, second-person or plural subject with an overt finiteness marker (e.g., *\*the girls hides*)
5. Verb phrase imitation - dependent on the verb root produced in the same clause
  - a. Accuracy
    - i. Correct - all elements of the verb phrase component in the same order as the target
    - ii. Incorrect - one or more deviations from the target verb phrase
  - b. Grammaticality - disregards the accuracy of the verb root imitation and accuracy of the verb phrase imitation
    - i. Grammatical - verb phrase correctly follows the verb root produced (e.g., *the girl hides her doll*)
    - ii. Ungrammatical – verb phrase does not correctly follow the verb root produced (e.g., *\*the girl gives her doll*)
  - c. Argument structure - based on the verb root produced in the same clause but disregards verb root imitation grammaticality
    - i. Correct - contained the correct number and type(s) of arguments as required by the verb root produced (e.g., *the girl gives her doll to her friend*)
    - ii. Incorrect – does not contain the correct number and type(s) of required arguments based on the verb root produced (e.g., *\*the girl gives the doll*)
6. Other factors influencing sentence imitation performance
  - a. Consistency with child grammar
    - i. Optional use of finiteness marking in obligatory contexts
    - ii. Grammaticality of overall imitations that were incorrectly imitated
  - b. Input processing/recall limitations
    - i. Out-of-order components
    - ii. Omitted components