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Katsuo Tamaoka, Shogo Makioka, Tadao Murata

Are the effects of vowel repetition influenced by frequencies?

A corpus study on CVCVCV-structured nouns with and without vowel repetition 1-11

Abstract. A psychological study by Tamaoka and Murata (2001) suggested that CVCVCV-structured nonwords (e.g., /kohomo/) with the same vowel repeated showed longer naming latencies than the same-structured nonwords without vowel repetition (e.g., /kohami/). One of the possible factors for prolonging vowel repetition could be the frequency of vowel repetition in Japanese. Thus, the present study calculated token frequencies for nouns with the same vowel repeated within a CVCVCV phonological structure, based on the Japanese lexical corpus (287,792,797 words) of Amano and Kondo (2000). The results showed that vowels were repeated among Japanese nouns with a CVCVCV string more frequently than the random possibility of 4 percent. In addition, nouns with the same vowels in the first and second positions (i.e., V_1 and V_2 in the $CV_1CV_2CV_3$) showed significantly higher occurrences than the random chance of 20 percent, whereas nouns with the same vowels in the second and third positions appeared at the random level (i.e., V_2 and V_3). Since it is expected that higher frequency enhances speed and accuracy in naming, phonological structures with the same vowel repeated can be expected to be more quickly and accurately named. Conflicting results between the present corpus study and the experimental study by Tamaoka and Murata (2001) excluded the possibility of the frequency of vowel repetition affecting the speed of accuracy of phonological processing.

Viktor Levickij, Leonid Hikow

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Emmerich Kelih, Peter Grzybek

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A. Gumenjuk, A. Kostyshin, K. Borisov, O. Salnikova

On the acoustic elements of a poem
and on the formal procedures of their segmentation

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Abstract. The present paper tests the hypothesis of the element acoustic basis of a poem. Various structures of acoustic elements, selected in the composition of a poem by the pasting together some of its adjacent phonemes into specific units, which we call consonances, are presented. New modifications of one algorithm of a poetic text segmentation (Gumenjuk, Kostyshin 1999) have been described. These modifications make it possible to obtain a number of versions of the consonance vocabularies of a single poem automatically. The method for its formal comparison has been suggested. The presented variants and other possible variants of consonance vocabularies can be used by the specialists in the field of phonetic analysis as the source material for the deeper informal study of the element acoustic basis of poems and natural languages.

Gabriel Altmann

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Emmerich Kelih

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