

**THE INFLUENCE OF AGE ON VOCABULARY ACQUISITION  
IN ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

Tesi doctoral presentada per

**Immaculada Miralpeix Pujol**

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Directors: **Dra. Carme Muñoz Lahoz i Dr. Paul M. Meara**

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**APPENDIX A**

**TESTS**

**A.1 Students' Questionnaire**

GRADE:

SCHOOL:

1. Name:
2. Last name:
3. Age: \_\_\_\_\_ years
4. Date of birth (dd/mm/yy):
5. Place of birth:
6. Sex:  Female  Male
7. Home address:
8. Phone number:
9. Languages you speak at home:  
 with your mother \_\_\_\_\_ with your father \_\_\_\_\_  
 with your siblings \_\_\_\_\_ with other people (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
10. Which language do you feel more comfortable with?  
 Catalan  Spanish  Both of them
11. (a) Mother's job:  
 (b) Father's job:
12. At what age did you start learning English?  
 In which grade?  
 PRIMARIA  1  2  3  4  5  6  
 EGB  1  2  3  4  5  6  
 In which type of school?  State  Private  
 How many hours of English per week did you take in Primaria or EGB?
13. Did you repeat any grades? Which one(s)?
14. Have you ever or are you currently learning extracurricular English?  
 In which language school?  
 At which age did you start?  
 For how long?  
 How many hours approximately per week?  
 More than 4h per week  4h per week  3h per week  
 2h per week  1h per week
15. Have you ever been to an English-speaking country?  
 yes  no  
 How many times?  
 Where?

- How old were you? For how long?  
 With whom?  
 Did you take an English course?
16. Which mark did you get in English last year?
17. Have you ever studied any other foreign languages?  
 Which one/s?  
 Where?  
 For how long?  
 Grades awarded:
18. Do you like learning English?  
 Yes  No  
 Why?
19. When you learn English in class or you study it at home, do you use any tricks or tips that help you in the process? That is to say, what do you do in order to (answer the following questions)?
- to remember the *meaning* of English words?
  - to learn English *pronunciation*?
  - to remember the *spelling* of new English words?
20. And in order to *understand* what you read in English, do you use any tips?
21. Finally, do you use any tricks or tips in order to *write* English sentences correctly?
22. Have you ever read books in English?  Yes  No  
*If your answer is YES, specify what kind of readings and the amount:*  
 Readers  
 Less than 5  Between 5 and 10  More than 10  
 Unabridged stories  
 Less than 5  Between 5 and 10  More than 10  
 Unabridged comic books  
 Less than 5  Between 5 and 10  More than 10  
 Unabridged books  
 Less than 5  Between 5 and 10  More than 10  
 Others (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Less than 5  Between 5 and 10  More than 10
23. Have you ever listened to English outside school?  
 Never  Sometimes  Very often  
*If your answer is YES, specify through which means:*  
 TV programmes  Never  Sometimes  Very often  
 Radio programmes  Never  Sometimes  Very often  
 Movies (with or without subtitles)  
 Never  Sometimes  Very often  
 Songs  Never  Sometimes  Very often  
 Others (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  Never  Sometimes  Very often
24. Have you ever spoken English outside school?  
 Never  Sometimes  Very often  
*If your answer is YES, with whom?*

- 
- With friends             Never             Sometimes    Very often  
 With acquaintances    Never             Sometimes    Very often  
 With foreigners         Never             Sometimes    Very often
25. Do you participate in the English class?  
 Never             Sometimes    Very often  
 Do you participate in English?  
 Never             Sometimes    Very often
26. When you do not understand or you do not know how to say something in English, what do you do?
- |                                 |                                 |                                |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Keep silent                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely | <input type="checkbox"/> Often |
| I search for other words        | <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely | <input type="checkbox"/> Often |
| I ask for help                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely | <input type="checkbox"/> Often |
| I shift into Catalan or Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely | <input type="checkbox"/> Often |
| Other _____                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely | <input type="checkbox"/> Often |
27. When you speak in English and they do not understand you, what do you do?
- |                               |                                 |                                |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Do you correct what you said? | <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely | <input type="checkbox"/> Often |
| Do you repeat what you said?  | <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely | <input type="checkbox"/> Often |

## A.2 Written tests

### Cloze Test

Now you'll read a story where some words are missing. You will know when a word is missing because there appears a line in its place. On each line you can ONLY write ONE word, and contractions (e.g. "isn't") count as a single word.

#### La Caputxeta Vermella (LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD)



A

Hello. I am "La Caputxeta Vermella".  
My favourite colour is (1) \_\_\_\_\_  
I am ten years old.  
I live with my parents.  
I have got no (2) \_\_\_\_\_ or sisters.  
I have got a grandmother.  
She is (3) \_\_\_\_\_ years old.

B

Once upon a time, there was a little girl. She was a very good girl. Her grandmother loved the girl (4) \_\_\_\_\_ lot and she often gave her presents. One day Little Red Riding Hood's (5) \_\_\_\_\_ made her a beautiful red cape and hood. The little (6) \_\_\_\_\_ liked it a lot and she always wore (7) \_\_\_\_\_ cape and hood.

Little Red Riding Hood lived with her mother and father (8) \_\_\_\_\_ a village near a large forest. Her mother worked at home and her (9) \_\_\_\_\_ worked in the forest. He was a woodcutter.

Little Red Riding Hood's grandmother (10) \_\_\_\_\_ a kilometre away. She lived alone in a little (11) \_\_\_\_\_ inside the forest. Little Red Riding Hood loved her grandmother and every (12) \_\_\_\_\_ she went to visit her.

C

One day her mother called her (13) \_\_\_\_\_ said, "Little Red Riding Hood, there (14) \_\_\_\_\_ a cake and a bottle of milk in this basket. I (15) \_\_\_\_\_ like you to take it to your grandmother. She (16) \_\_\_\_\_ ill this morning and she needs to eat."

Before the (17) \_\_\_\_\_ left, her mother told her "Be careful and (18) \_\_\_\_\_ stop to play in the forest. And walk carefully. Don't run or you (19) \_\_\_\_\_ break the bottle. Then you will have no milk for your (20) \_\_\_\_\_." Little Red Riding Hood took the basket. Then she (21) \_\_\_\_\_ goodbye to her mother and started to walk to her grandmother's (22) \_\_\_\_\_.

Ten minutes later, Little Red Riding Hood (23) \_\_\_\_\_ a wolf. She had never seen a wolf before and she (24) \_\_\_\_\_ not know he was a bad creature. She thought he (25) \_\_\_\_\_ a large dog and she was not afraid of (26) \_\_\_\_\_.

"Good morning, Little Red Riding Hood. Where are you going so early (27) \_\_\_\_\_ the morning?" asked the wolf. "To my grandmother's house," she answered.

Then the wolf asked her, "And what have (28) \_\_\_\_\_ got in your basket?". Little Red Riding Hood said, "A cake and some (29) \_\_\_\_\_. My grandmother is ill and this basket is (30) \_\_\_\_\_ her."

Note: The version with 25 gaps did not contain items 1,2,3,10 and 12.

### A.3 Oral tests

#### A.3.1 Semi-guided Oral Interview

1. What is your name?
2. How old are you?
3. Do you like this school?
4. What time did you arrive this morning?
5. When will you leave?
6. What will you do when you finish today?
7. What do you like to do in your free time?
8. What did you do last weekend?
9. Let's talk about your family now. How many brothers and sisters have you got? (*Talk about them*).
10. Which language do you speak with your parents/with your mother/father?
11. Where do you live?
12. How many people live in your house?
13. How many rooms are there?
14. Tell me about your room. How many (beds, etc) are there?

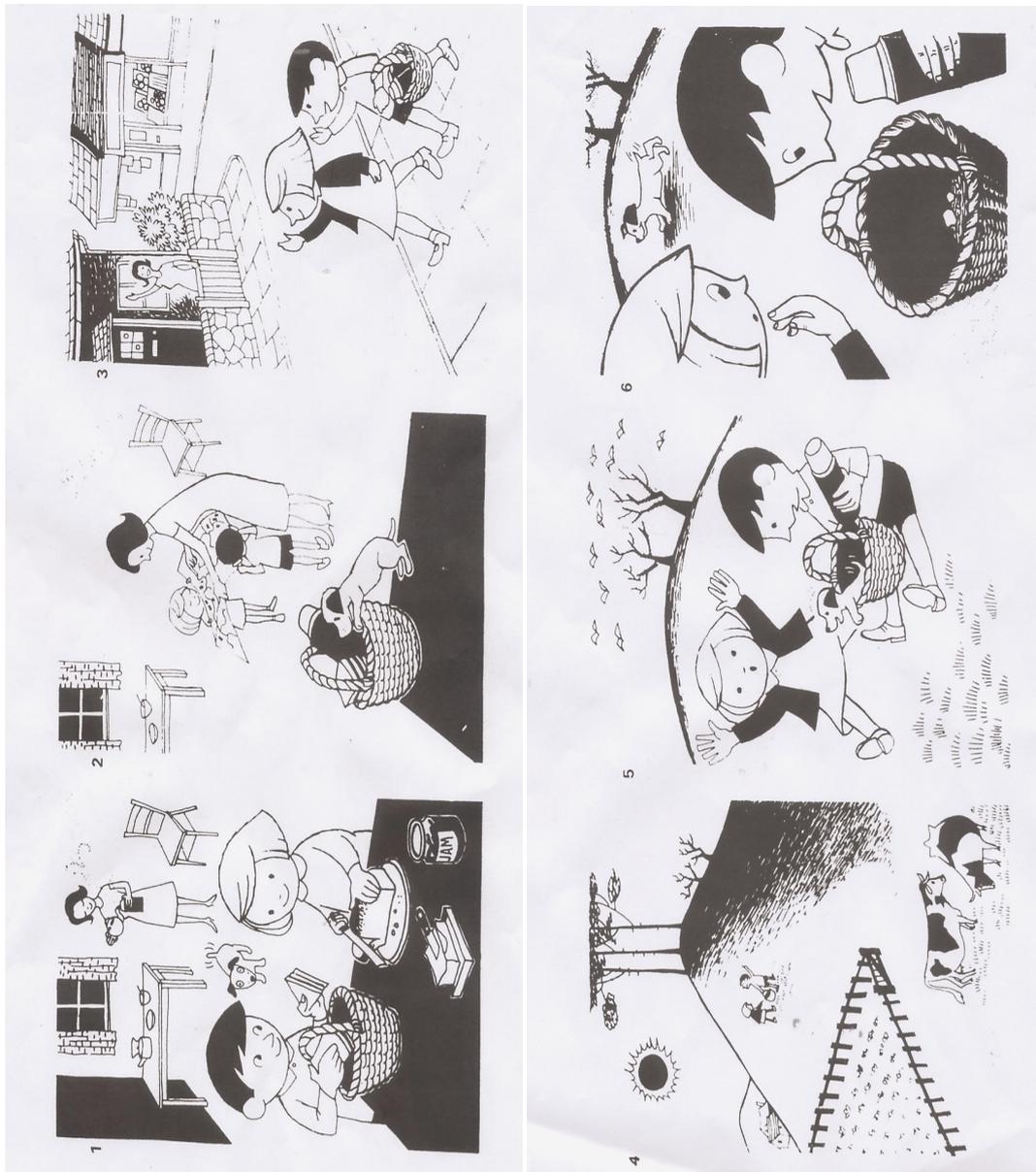
#### A.3.2 Storytelling

I am going to show you a little story. Can you tell me the story? It begins here...

If s/he needs some help at some point:

Where are they going here? (n.3)

Why is the basket empty? / Who has eaten their food? (n.6)



### A.3.3 Roleplay

Now you are going to do something with another student from your class, so let's move to.../let's see/let's wait...Let's pretend A is a mother/father and B is a boy/girl who wants to have a party on Friday after school. Decide on:

- where to have the party;
- who to invite;
- what to buy to eat and drink;
- time to start and finish;
- activities / games to play.