

Abstract

To date many researchers have examined the effect of category typicality on the ordering of words in the sentence production among normal people. They mostly have found out that typical items are more prior than atypical ones. They also unanimously confirmed that the results are affected by either word frequency or conceptual variable. In this study, it is decided to expand the experiment among intellectually challenged subjects to compare the results with the ones obtained from normal ones. Furthermore, the effect of typicality on word order in some Persian collocations has been tested. Experiment 1 is administered among normal students, while experiment 2 is administered among abnormal (mentally retarded) ones in order to investigate the effect of typicality on word order in both groups. Word pairs of both same and different categories have taken into considerations in this study.

Keywords: Typicality; Word pairs; Collocation; Word order; Retardation