

THIRD LANGUAGE ACQUISITION AND LINGUISTIC TRANSFER

Is acquiring a third language the same as acquiring a second? Are all instances of nonnative language acquisition simply one and the same? In this first booklength study of the topic, the authors systematically walk the reader through the evidence to answer these questions. They suggest that acquiring an additional language in bilinguals (of all types) is unique and reveals things about the links between language and mind, brain and cognition, which are otherwise impossible to appreciate. The patterns of linguistic transfer and what motivates it when there are choices (as can only be seen from third language acquisition onwards) underscore a key concept in linguistic and psychological sciences: economy. Overviewing the subfields examining multilingual acquisition and processing, this book offers an expanded systematic review of the field of multilingual morphosyntactic transfer and provides recommendations for the future emerging field.

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To Mom
To Irati and Oihan
To Laura
In memory of David Rothman, Albert Puig-Mayenco and
Blueberry



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