Language Scripting & Repetition in Alzheimer’s disease: A Discussion of a Single Subject’s Narrative Discourse

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ABSTRACT

This paper discusses an expressive language sample of a 79-year-old male, who has a history of Alzheimer’s disease. Using systematic analysis of language transcripts (SALT), it was revealed that during narrative discourse Mr. H. exhibited noticeably degraded speech, repetitive sentence fragments, and lacked cohesive language.

RESULTS

Scripting
- Semantic Scripting: A phrase or utterance with the same meaning

Perseveration
- Ideational Perseveration: Repetitions of a previous response

Mazing
- Mazing: A repetition, revision, substitution, or a filled pause

CONCLUSIONS

- A majority of words produced were the same words therefore resulting in a TTR percentage indicative of a deficit in language output
- Specific error patterns, mazes, can show connections between failing cognitive and language skills
- Perseverative behavior created a non-concise and incoherent verbose discourse-suggesting cognitive disorganization attributed to AD
- This study sought to understand how a person with AD struggles to communicate
- Supports a belief that AD patients showing memory deficits will produce less content
- Occurrence of scripting and perseverative behaviors effects meaningful exchanges

LITERATURE CITED


CONTACT INFORMATION

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