

Instructions for the Assignment 2: Speech error analysis

Part 1: Instructions FOR DATA COLLECTION ONLY (the full instructions will be provided later, when you are in a position to analyze the data).

What to collect

Collect **speech errors**, also known as **slips of the tongue**.

Slips of the tongue are utterances that did not come out as intended.

They are produced by **competent fluent speakers** who know exactly how to express their message, but this particular time, they accidentally said something other than what they wanted to say – because of a glitch in the speech production process. Often, the speaker notices the slip and corrects him/herself.

Sometimes, speech errors result in real words, sometimes not.

Each of you needs to collect a small corpus of slips of the tongue as data for psycholinguistic research. Later, when you learn how speech production works, you will be able to analyze this data and write up the assignment.

You can collect slips of the tongue in a language other than English, provided that you know that language well.

You will need at least 15 speech errors.

What NOT to collect

Slips of the tongue are NOT

- children's ungrammatical utterances
- second language speakers' ungrammatical utterances
- utterances of any person with a language disorder
- utterances that sound unusual to you because they are produced by speakers of other dialects
- creative use of language, such as intentionally inventing non-existing words

What to write down

For each speech error,

- write down the sentence with the error (What did they actually say?), and any correction the speaker made
- write down the intended utterance (What did they want to say?)
- write down the context if it is relevant (Was something said or done before the error that could "help" the error to happen? Anything about the topic of the conversation, or about the surroundings, etc.?)

Where to find slips of the tongue?

Everywhere where you can hear people talking! For example:

- Conversations (including phone calls or videocalls)
- Lectures, tutorials, various meetings, etc.
- TV and radio live shows, YouTube videos, etc.

DO NOT use slips of the tongue from the textbook or lectures, or from online collections. Only use those that you have collected.

Some examples:

Error: You have **hissed** all my **mystery** lectures.

Intended: You have missed all my history lectures.

Error: They found a hundred dollar **dill**.

Intended: They found a hundred dollar bill.

Error: They talked about **firing** of the faculty.

Intended: They talked about hiring of the faculty.

Error: I **eat** to **love**.

Intended: I love to eat.

Error: A **potted watch** never boils.

Intended: A watched pot never boils.

Error: I've forgot about**en** that.

Intended: I've forgotten about that.

Error: Do you have **hanitizer**?

Intended: Do you have hand sanitizer?

Error: Please **expland** this.

Intended: Please explain/expand this.

Error: The **Saturday** is on Sunday.

Intended: The party is on Sunday.

Error: You are driving too **slowly**... I mean, too fast.

Intended: You are driving too fast.

Error: Don't turn off my shoes!

Intended: Don't turn off **the light, let me find** my shoes