

A CASE STUDY ON THE USAGE OF NEGATION IN MANDARIN IN CHILDREN WITH COCHLEAR IMPLANT AS COMPARED TO THE USAGE OF NEGATION IN MANDARIN IN NORMALLY DEVELOPING CHILDREN AGED 3;0-3;11 YEARS OLD

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This is a case study on the usage of negation in Mandarin in children with cochlear implant as compared to the usage of negation in Mandarin in normally developing children aged 3;0-6;11 years old. In this study, the multiword negation was targeted. The focused multiword negations are *bu*, *bu_shi*, *bu_hui*, *bu_neng*, *bu_ke_yi* and *mei_you*. 160 Chinese normally developing children aged 3;0-6;11 and 4 Chinese children who received cochlear implant for 3;0-6;11 years are included in this study. The total of 100 utterances consists of 50 utterances through play and 50 utterances through interview were obtained for each child. The result of the analysis revealed that for normally developing children, the frequency of the usage of multiword negation increased across the age group. Whereas, the percentage of multiword negation used in total words decreased after 3 years old and followed by an increase in the percentage of multiword negation used. For children with cochlear implant, descriptive analysis was done. In general, children with cochlear implant produce the same or higher percentage of multiword negation in total words as normally developing children who have the same hearing age. The study found that children in both groups (normally developing children and children with cochlear implant) used type of multiword negation in the same way. The children produced more **mei_you**, followed by *bu* and *bu_shi*. Besides, there is no significant difference between the multiword negation used by normally developing boys and girls. The potential value of this study is illuminated in efforts to develop a Mandarin language assessment suited for the Malaysian population.

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