

Exploring the Influence of Native Language on Linguistic Consciousness

Alla Slesarchuk

Future Learning, Ireland

Abstract:

This study investigates the influence of native language on the formation of linguistic consciousness by comparing two associative words in Irish and English languages, focusing on the concept of "education." Employing an associative experiment methodology, we aim to demonstrate how the first language impacts cognitive processes. Associative experiments are established as effective tools for probing linguistic phenomena, allowing for the exploration of language-related cognitive mechanisms. Participants proficient in both Irish and English were presented with stimulus words related to image formation and asked to provide associations (open associative experiment), revealing linguistic and cultural influences on cognitive associations. The results reveal distinct associative patterns influenced by participants' native languages, highlighting the role of linguistic background in shaping cognitive processes. This study contributes to our understanding of linguistic consciousness and its connection to language acquisition, cognitive psychology, and cross-linguistic comparisons.