# Appendix 2. Protocol for identification and coding of nouns.

This procedure involves four stages: (I) identification of nouns, (II) identification of target nouns, (III) coding for grammatical number and (IV) coding for ‘correctness’ of grammatical number. Please complete all four stages for each participant.

1. Identification of nouns

Listening to/ watching the recordings as many times as necessary, please identify and note all instances of nouns produced by the participant within the section of transcription using the guidelines in A-D below (any language produced by the researcher should not be included). When looking at the transcriptions, please take into account only the transcribed language, ignoring any footnotes in the document.

A. Definition of noun

An item should be identified as a noun, irrespective of whether it is a paraphasia, following the criteria below. The semantic criteria should be used as a guideline whilst particular attention should be paid to the syntactic criteria.

* Semantic criteria

A noun is *usually* “a word that refers to a person, place, thing, event, substance, or quality: 'Doctor', 'tree', 'party', 'coal' and 'beauty' are all nouns” (Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary and Thesaurus, 2013).

* Syntactic criteria

The item should be included as a noun if it appears in a position where a noun would be expected in relation to other syntactic categories in standard English, for example, a noun “…can combine with *the* to form a complete phrase” (Börjars & Burridge, 2010, p.48). Therefore, the items listed in (i) below can be classed as nouns, whilst those in (ii) cannot:

(i) (ii)

*discussion discusses*

*the time* \* *the timed*

*shade* *shaded*

An example of a paraphasia that might be classed as a noun because of its syntactic relations to other categories is *[taʊzǝz]* below:

*she gave him the [taʊzǝz]*

Please note that in some cases, syntax alone must be used to establish an item’s category, for instance, it can be determined from syntax, but not semantics, that *think* is a verb in (iii) and a noun in (iv) below (Chalker & Weiner, 1994, p. 266):

(iii) *I must think*

(iv)  *I’ll have a think*

B. Definition of ‘instance’

Each occurrence of a noun should be included as one instance (and therefore as one entry in the table) unless it occurs within a consecutive repeated attempt at the same item, for example:

*[k] castle castle castle*

In this case, the whole attempt is one instance and usually only the final production of the item should be included in the coding. If, however, the final production of the item within such a repeated attempt is less complete than the previous productions in that attempt, the more complete form should be the one included for coding. For instance, in an attempt as follows, the penultimate form would be the one included:

*[sɪn] [sɪŋɛlə] [sɪnə]*

C. Inclusions

Please include:

(i) common nouns, e.g. *window*

(ii) proper nouns (names), e.g. *Mary*

(iii) –*ing* forms appearing in a position where a noun might typically be distributed, e.g. *the washing*

(iv) nouns appearing in what might seem to be ‘fixed’ phrases or exclamations, such as the underlined items below:

*twelve o’clock*

*in charge*

*oh God*

*oh dear*

(v) numerical items that function as a noun in that the word is the term for a specific thing (e.g. *the twelve* referring to a card in a pack of cards or the *twenty-nine* referring to the brass numbers on a front door). Numerical items should not be included if they are quantifiers, that is, specifying the quantity of something (e.g. *twelve mice*), or pronouns referring to items or people (e.g. *those two*). (See also D (i)).

D. Exclusions

Please exclude:

(i) pronouns, e.g. *he*, *she*, *it*, *everybody*, *the four*, *that one*.

(ii) -*ing* forms for which it is not possible to determine with certainty whether this is a noun/gerund (as opposed to a verb) form, such as *washing* below:

*table (.) washing*

(iii) other forms that could potentially belong to more than one category, whose surrounding items do not help to determine with certainty whether the item is a noun form. For instance, *dance* below could be a verb or a noun (*the dance*).

*dance (.) dance (.) cinderella*

(iv) short productions, such as individual phonemes, for which it is not possible to judge reasonably what the attempted item is, for instance:

*the [b]*

*with a [hǝ]*

(v) numerical items functioning as quantifiers or pronouns (see C (v) above).

2. Identification of target nouns

In the case of phonemic paraphasias (usually noted using phonetic transcription), if the intended target noun seems apparent, this should be noted in brackets immediately after the paraphasia. For example, if the target noun of *[taʊzǝz]* was thought to be *trousers*, this would be noted as follows:

*[taʊzǝz]* (trousers)

3. Coding for grammatical number

Again listening to/ watching the recordings as many times as necessary, please whether each noun recorded has been produced in its singular or plural form. If the noun is judged to be a mass noun (for example *happiness*, *furniture*), please record this as ‘singular (mass)’. In cases where the grammatical number of the noun cannot be determined for any reason, please write ‘don’t know’.

4. Coding for ‘correctness’ of grammatical number

For this stage, please listen to all the narrative up to the selected section under analysis as it is important to understand the context of this section within the whole narrative. Then, again listening to/ watching the recordings as many times as necessary, for each noun recorded, please note whether the grammatical number of the noun produced appears to be correct in relation to what would be expected from the narrative or linguistic context. For participants whose data is available on video and who used the picture book whilst producing the narrative, please refer to the appropriate parts of the picture book to check the grammatical number expected of nouns at the relevant points of the story. For instance, if a participant produces horse at a point where the story appears to involve more than one horse, the noun form produced would be deemed incorrect. Equally, if the plural form was used at a point where the singular would be expected from the point of the story, this too would be incorrect, as in the example below (if produced whilst looking at a picture of Cinderella on a horse)

*cinderella (.) riding (.) horses*

As well as basing judgements on the context of the story, ‘incorrectness’ may also be determined by the linguistic context, for instance the grammatical number of the noun in *six horse* is incorrect as a noun should be produced in the plural when following a quantifier greater than one.

Please note that ‘correctness’ here refers only to grammatical number, irrespective of whether the form produced is a paraphasia. For instance, if a participant produces the semantic paraphasia *aunties* when seemingly referring to the two ugly sisters, this would be judged as correct, since the plural form would be expected from the narrative context (there are two ugly sisters). In cases of uncertainty regarding the correctness of the grammatical number (e.g. if it cannot be reasonably judged who or what in the story the participant is referring to and the linguistic context does not help to determine correctness of grammatical number), please write ‘don’t know’.

References

Börjars, K. & Burridge, K. (2010). *Introducing English grammar* (2nd ed.). London: Hodder Education.

*Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary and Thesaurus*. (2013). Retrieved March 16, 2013, from http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/noun?q=noun.

Chalker, S. & Weiner, E. (1994). *The Oxford dictionary of English grammar*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.