Heritage, Second-Language and Native Speakers’ Intuitions on Deictic Verbs in Spanish: Beyond the Linguist’s Intuitions


## 1ST DEICTIC VERBS

**TO COME**

They systematically apply English deictic rules to their Spanish.

**LEFT TO COME**

They forbid the use of the verbs venir - traer to refer to movement towards the listener.

## 2ND THE EXPERIMENT

### 3RD DISCUSSION and CONCLUSIONS

**34 HERITAGE SPEAKERS (BILINGUAL SPOKES)**

**1ST QUESTION**

They make more mistakes than native speakers when it comes to assessing the grammaticality of deictic verbs oriented towards the listener.

**PRAGMATIC TRANSFER FROM ENGLISH**

They systematically apply English deictic rules to their Spanish.

**REFERENCE time**

They have a lacuna in the knowledge of deictic verbs in Spanish (2 years’ exposure does not suffice).

**THEMATIC DEVELOPMENT**

An explicit teaching of deictic verbs is advisable.

They systematically apply English deictic rules to their Spanish.

**29 L2 SPEAKERS (BILINGUAL SPOKES) (2 YEARS OF SPANISH)**

**1ST QUESTION**

They make more mistakes than native and heritage speakers together when it comes to assessing the grammaticality of deictic verbs oriented towards the listener.

**PUTS INTO PRACTICE**

They have a lacuna in the knowledge of deictic verbs in Spanish (2 years’ exposure is not enough).

**THEMATIC DEVELOPMENT**

An explicit instruction about deictic verbs is advisable.

**9 SCENARIOS**

**EXPERIMENT**

Participants subsequently assessed sentences such as “¿Debo traer algo?/Should I bring something?”

**STIMULUS ITEMS**

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**FILLER ITEMS**

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### 2ND QUESTION

“Traer” and “venir” are similar regarding their comparison with “llevar” and “ir” as far as both the main effects and the bidirectional interactions are concerned; nevertheless, a difference arises when the direction is towards the listener, which suggests that “traer” constitutes a more acceptable candidate for the movement of the deictic towards the listener than “venir”.

**3RD QUESTION**

The direction of the movement is important and speakers tend to make more errors when movement is directed towards the speaker.

### 4TH QUESTION

The study makes it clear that verbal deixis is a topic which can be examined from a fresh perspective through the use of applications with the capacity to offer a higher degree of discernment, such as the general linear mixed-effects model. Thanks to these new methods, linguists will be able to go beyond their intuition and the anecdotal tests to reach far more rigorous conclusions.