

Background Guasti Maria Teresa (2002) Language acquisition. The growth of grammar, MIT press. Chapter 1, 2, 3 (up to page 74), 5, 7

During class I will start from the chapter in Guasti and further develop the topics based on the articles indicated that students should look at.

Assignments will be readings the chapters and the articles and participate to the discussion in class. Students are required to write an essay of 3 or 4 pages based on one of the topics discussed in class. Depending of the mother tongue of the students and their interest, assignments could also include works on Childe's data, design of an experiment.

Lessons	Readings	References of readings
L1: Introduction. The sound system: find a path in the Babel of language	Ch. 1 Guasti Ch. 2 Guasti	
L2: Consonants and vowels	Ch. 2 Guasti Ch. 3 Guasti (up to page 74) Bonatti et al. 2005	Bonatti, L., M. Peña, M. Nespor e J. Mehler (2005) Linguistic constraints on statistical computations. <i>Psychological science</i> 16:451-459.
L3: Prosodic bootstrapping and language change	Guasti 2003 Nespor et al 2005	Guasti, M. T. (2003) How parameters are set early and the order of setting. In Y. Otsu <i>Proceeding of the Fourth Tokio Conference in Psycholinguistics</i> , pp. 23-58, Tokio:Hituzi Syobo. Nespor, M., Peña, M. e J. Mehler (2005) On the different roles of vowels and consonants in speech processing and language acquisition. <i>Lingue e linguaggio</i> 2:203-229.
L4/5: The production of silence: subject omission	Rizzi 2002 Serratrice in press	Rizzi, L. (2002) On the Grammatical Basis of Language Development: A Case Study. Ms.University of Siena Serratrice, L. The role of discourse pragmatics in the acquisition of subjects in Italian
L6/7: Passive, unaccusatives and raising	Ch. 7 Guasti Caprin & Guasti (in press) Friedman 2005 Lorusso et al. 2005 Hirsch and Wexler Becker, 2006	Lorusso, P., C. Caprin & M. T. Guasti (2005) Overt Subject Distribution in Early Italian Children. <i>Supplement Proceeding of Boston University Conference on Language Development</i> . http://www.bu.edu/linguistics/APPLIED/BUCLD Hirsch C. and K. Wexler (2006) Children's passive and their resultative interpretation. <i>Proceedings of GALANA</i> . Friedman, N. (2005) The acquisition of Hebrew

		<p>unaccusatives: Young children and A-chains. Ms. Becker, M. (to appear) There began to be a learnability puzzle. Linguistic inquiry</p> <p>Caprin, C. & M. T. Guasti (in press) A cross-sectional study on the use of “be” in early Italian. In Torrens, V., Escobar, L. <i>The Acquisition of Syntax in Romance Languages</i>. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.</p>
L8: Children processing: chains	Guasti et al. De Vincenzi Friedman	<p>Arosio, F., Adani F. e M. T. Guasti (in press) “Children’s processing of subject and object relatives in Italian”. In A. Belletti <i>Proceedings of GALA 2005</i>. Cambridge Scholars Press/CSP.</p> <p>De Vincenzi, M., L., Arduino, L., Ciccarelli, R., Job, 1999. Parsing strategies in children comprehension of interrogative sentences. <i>Proceeding of ECCS '99, Siena</i>.</p> <p>Franck, J., G. Lassi, U. Frauenfelder & L. Rizzi (in press) Agreement and movement: A syntactic analysis of attraction.</p>