Appendix 1

Biodata of the individual learners

Spanish learners of Swedish

Fernando
Fernando is an Argentinian man, aged 34 when he comes to Sweden as a political refugee. In Argentina he had attended elementary school and worked as an electrician. Fernando speaks Spanish with his Chilean spouse and their two young children. He has contact with speakers of Swedish on a daily basis at the two schools for immigrants he attends. He follows Swedish language courses for 7 months and then attends a technical course to become a welder in Swedish during 4 months. Fernando does not succeed in finding a job and remains unemployed throughout the study.

The data collection begins five months after Fernando’s arrival in Sweden. His initial knowledge of Swedish is described as very limited, but he is reported to be a fairly fast learner (Dietrich et al. 1995: 228).

Nora
Nora is an Uruguayan woman. In Uruguay, she attended elementary school and worked as a textile factory worker. She comes to Sweden at the age of 39 for political reasons and to join her Uruguayan husband. Nora speaks Spanish with her spouse and three daughters (aged 8, 5, and 3 on arrival in Sweden). She attends several Swedish courses during the first two years in Sweden. At first she is unemployed, but after two years she gets a temporary job as a cleaner. She also delivers newspapers to homes regularly. Nora divorces her husband after 30 months of stay in Sweden and she continues to live in Gothenburg with her daughters.

The data collection begins 10 months after arrival in Sweden and ends after 43 months of stay. Nora’s level in Swedish at the first encounter with the researchers is described as very limited. Dietrich et al (1995) describe her as a slow learner, although they observe that progress is made after Nora starts working.

Italian learners of German

Angelina
Angelina was twenty years old when she moved to Germany with her Italian husband. The first recording session was fifteen months after her arrival in Germany and the last session was nineteen months later, when she had lived there for almost three years. As a housewife in a small village near Heidelberg,
she had very little contact with native speakers of German. The monthly
recording sessions for the ESF project provided the main opportunity for
speaking German. She had little to no knowledge of German at the outset of the
observation period, and is described as very self-conscious about her limited
knowledge of the language and she frequently resorts to Italian. Her knowledge
of English is very limited.

Marcello
Marcello was twenty-two years old when he arrived in Germany to live with his
Italian partner who grew up and lived in Germany. Eleven months after his
arrival, the first recording was made and the observation period lasted twenty-
three months in all. About a year after his arrival in Germany he got a job in an
ice-cream parlor behind the bar. He had frequent contact with Italians, and very
little with native speakers of German. He received no target language schooling
and he has very little knowledge of German at the start of the project. He has
basic knowledge of French and English.

Tino
Tino was twenty years old when he first came to Germany in 1982. He worked in
a pizzeria for six months. Then he returned to Italy, but came back to Heidelberg
in February 1983. The first recording was made two months after his first arrival
to Germany, and a second one four weeks later. Then the recordings stopped,
and recommenced in February when he came back to Germany for the second
time. The last recording was made exactly two years after the first.

At the beginning of the observation he worked as a kitchen hand and, at
the end as a waiter in an Italian restaurant. He had regular and frequent contacts
with native speakers of German, including a German partner, with whom he lived
for a while. At the beginning of the recordings his German is very elementary,
but he makes rapid progress. He has some basic knowledge of French and English.

Italian learners of English

Vito
When Vito arrives in England he is twenty-five years old. He has received no
previous tuition in English and both his speaking and his knowledge of the language
is rated as “poor” at the first recording session. At that time he has been in England
for about a year. Around the beginning of the second cycle Vito starts taking an
elementary English course of three hours per week.

Santo
Santo is aged 25 when he comes to England. Like Vito, he was a beginner at the
start of the data collection. He attended no language classes in England, but had
received an elementary course in English during his secondary level education (scuola media) in Italy. He is described as a “risk-taker” at the initial encounter and as a rather fluent speaker of simplified English at the end of the study (Perdue and Klein 1992:261).

Andrea
Andrea was thirty-six when he arrived in England. He had been in England for five months when the study started, and was still a beginner despite some language classes which he had attended on an irregular basis during his first four months in England. He is described as a reserved and cautious learner, who makes considerable progress during the course of the project, but is still “far removed from native speaker competence” at the end of it (Perdue and Klein 1992:260).

Lavinia
Lavinia is a twenty-year-old woman, who has been in England for five months when the study starts. Her productive level of English is then described as “low”, although she received about six hundred hours of English while still in Italy.
Appendix 2:

VS constructions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VS constructions with lexical verbs in declarative Italian-English utterances</th>
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<th>Lavinia</th>
<th>Santo</th>
<th>Vito</th>
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