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A Longitudinal Study of Language Adaptation at Multiple Timescales in Native- and Non-Native Speakers

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OfficeHours_IS5_20160225_Seg04.pdf

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Setting: ITA's office. Quiet.
Participants: I1 (not visible), IS5 (long black hair)

```
xxx I1:    alright
xxx        let's talk about TA
xxx IS5:   ok my TA position is to grade
xxx        [and
xxx I1:    [ok=
xxx IS5:   =and office hours
xxx I1:    mhm
xxx IS5:   that's all
xxx I1:    that's all!
xxx IS5:   yep
xxx I1:    so you don't have to teach.
xxx IS5:   no
xxx I1:    but you taught a lab last semester
xxx IS5:   yea
xxx I1:    how was it?
xxx        did you like it?
xxx IS5:   you know it
xxx        >because I talk with you last semester<
Xxx        ((laughs))
xxx I1:    damn it
xxx        well uh
xxx        uh:::m
xxx        just refresh my memory
xxx IS5:   ok it's good it's
xxx        I can practice my English
xxx I1:    ok
xxx IS5:   but a funny thing is that (with) the evaluations
xxx        when you have to ((incomprehensible))
xxx I1:    oh yea
xxx IS5:   and just do that some students
xxx        some students said that
xxx        language barrier
xxx I1:    oh really?
xxx IS5:   so it means I need to improve my English
xxx I1:    I think your English is very good=
xxx IS5:   =oh thank you so much!
xxx I1:    I don't think there is a problem in communication.
xxx IS5:   it's hard for me to-
xxx I1:    is it because of
xxx        it's physics?
```

```
xxx IS5:   actually for physics it's kind of better,
xxxx       because we just use this terminology
xxxx       but in daily life it's hard.
xxx I1:    in daily
xxx        so in daily life in your exper
xxx        experience
xxx        last semester
xxx        what kind of difficulties did you encounter?
xxx IS5:   like you cannot
xxx        communicate with others.
xxx        about topics except physics
xxx        like movies
xxx        um
xxx        like for example you are talking with someone (.)
xxx        about movie
xxx I1:    mhm
xxx IS5:   and when they say the name
xxx I1:    m::
xxx IS5:   maybe I watch it
xxx        but I don't know its
xxx        English name
xxx        I know its
xxx I1:    o::h yea:
xxx        it's a reference to American culture
xxx IS5:   yea
xxx I1:    Hollywood movies
xxx IS5:   yep
xxx IS5:   this is very
xxx        so it's hard for me ((inc))
xxx I1:    I totally understand
xxx        I've been here for more than 10 years
xxx        and I don't watch movie
xxx IS5:   ok
xxx        so ((laughs))
xxx        in that kinda case I just
xxx        I just listen
xxx IS5:   [yea
xxx I1:    [yea
xxx        just smile
xxx IS5:   °and sometimes my listening is not that good°
xxx I1:    oh really?
xxx IS5:   like I can't understand
xxx I1:    do you think it's the speed,
xxx        or pronunciation,
xxx        or vocabulary
```

```
xxx IS5:    ° all of them°
xxx I1:     all of them?
xxx IS5:    yea
xxx I1:     so do you think
xxx         people around you talk too fast?
xxx IS5:    uh not that fast
xxx         I think the vocabulary=
xxx I1:     =vocabulary
xxx IS5:    might be the °problem°
xxx         because I memory
xxx         like for GRE or TOEFL I memorize words but
xxx         I forgot °all of them°
xxx I1:     nobody talks
xxx         nobody use GRE words in daily life
xxx IS5:    maybe ((incomprehensible)) like ((incomprehensible))
xxx         like this
xxx I1:     what?
xxx IS5:    which is very
xxx         uh (.)
xxx         complicated
xxx I1:     ok
xxx         but there are always special people
xxx         but,
xxx         what about pronunciation?
xxx IS5:    it's good
xxx         I can understand
xxx I1:     do you have any:
xxx         um
xxx         u:m
xxx         colleagues or students or professors
xxx         with accents?
xxx IS5:    of course
xxx         everyone has accent.
xxx I1:     what kind of accent
xxx         do they have?
xxx IS5:    eh
xxxx        if they are non-native accent
xxxx        >they are from Russia so they have °Russian accent°<
3:00
xxx I1:     so when you are a student
xxx         taking your professor's class=
xxx IS5:    =mhm
xxx I1:     do you have this kind of problem?
xxx IS5:    (of course I can't understand what they're saying)
```

```
xxx I1:     ok
xxx         uhh
xxx         but no
xxx         I think it's ok
xxx         let's
xxx         let's don't talk about professors then
xxx         um
xxx         ((laughs))
xxx IS5:    so this semester my TA (is actually very simple)
xxx I1:     ok
xxx IS5:    but I still took some time because I need to
xxx         give the solution
xxx I1:     ok
xxx IS5:    so how to do their homework
xxx I1:     ok
xxx         ((IS5 gasps))
xxx         what
xxx IS5:    ((incomprehensible))
xxx         I
xxx I1:     are you supposed to-
xxx IS5:    -[I should
xxx I1:      [announce?
xxx IS5:    no no
xxx         but I guess I
xxx         yea
xxx         this time
xxx         °my professor°
xxx         uh yea
xxx         yea
xxx I1:     oh can I ask you a question?
xxx         how do you refer to your professors in your department?
xxx         do you call them by their first name?
xxx         or
xxx         by last name?
xxx IS5:    I will call them >professor blahblahblah<
xxx         sometimes
xxx I1:     o::h
xxx IS5:    if I don't know them I will call them professor
xxx         that's all
xxx I1:     and it's not ok to call them by their first name
xxx IS5:    >I don't know<
xxx         I mean it's:
xxx         eh
xxx         it might be ok like
xxx         >it depends who the person like<
```

```
xxx        if you
xxx        if I'm a professor
xxx        and my students call me
xxx        call my first name
xxx        it's ok
xxx I1:    ok
xxx        right
xxx I1:    yea
xxx IS5:   so but
xxx        >maybe there are someone who don't like such things<
xxx        I don't know
xxx I1:    o:h
xxx        in our department the tradition
xxx        or the convention,
xxx        is to call professors by their first name
4:27
xxx IS5:   maybe it makes you guys uh
xxx I1:    and that
xxx        I was very uncomfortable when I was a first year student
xxx        and I called everyone professor blah blah blah
xxx        professor blah blah blah
xxx        and then finally I got used to it
xxx        because everyone besides me
xxx        were calling them-
xxx IS5:   I think a good choice is that
xxx        you can ask them
xxx        can I call you blah.
xxx        something
xxx        like for her
xxx        his name is Jack
xxx        like if I call Jack
xxx        so if he said yes
xxx        he says yes
xxx        because I do know there are some who don't like students
xxx        ᵒcall their first nameᵒ
xxx I1:    oh ok
xxx        I just follow other people
xxx        what other people are doing?
xxx        I just
xxx        mimic
xxx IS5:   there is a professor,
xxx        of
xxx        >I mean he's not a professor in physics department<
xxx I1:    mhm
xxx IS5:   >other department<
```

```
xxx I1:     ok
xxx IS5:    and he
xxx         he does like students to say °his first name°=
xxx I1:     =oh ok
xxx IS5:    and he told students
xxx         that you need to
xxx         that they need to call him professor ((gestures))
xxx I1:     ok
xxx IS5:    it's ok for me
xxx         cause
xxx         I cannot ((inc))
xxx I1:     ((laughing))
xxx         yea
xxx         I know
xxx IS5:    it's hard
xxx I1:     oh but
xxx         see
xxx         in your case
xxx         you're name is
xxx         so it's ok for people to pronounce your name right?
xxx         so what do your students call you?
xxx IS5:    you
xxx I1:     oh you
xxx IS5:    yea
xxx I1:     oh because they can't
xxx IS5:    >oh yes you didn't go to the lab<
xxx I1:     no I didn't go to the lab
xxx IS5:    they call me you
xxx         YOU
xxx         ((laughing))
xxx I1:     do you try to correct them?
xxx IS5:    no
xxx         I don't care
xxx I1:     what do people around you call you?
xxx         in your department?
xxx IS5:    they're trying to (.)
xxxx        pronounce it °correctly°
6:00
xxx I1:     but failing
xxx         uh
xxx I1:     but they can
xxx IS5:    uh someone can
xxx         like him
xxx I1:     are you the only Chinese person
xxx         in this department?
```

```
xxx IS5:   of course not!
xxx I1:    of course not?
xxx        ok
xxx        how many students
xxx        are Chinese?
xxx IS5:   huh?
xxx I1:    how many Chinese students?
xxx IS5:   >I don't know don't remember but maybe <
xxx        65? 67? 8?
xxx I1:    how many students do you have in total?
xxx IS5:   I don't know!,
xxx        either!,
xxx I1:    are you part of this department?
xxx IS5:   I'm
xxx        I mean (.)
xxx        I don't know why
xxx I1:    but .
xxx        ((laugh))
xxx IS5:   but
xxx        when start from elementary school
xxx        I don't know how many students in my class.
xxx I1:    ((laugh))
xxx        that's impossible because in China
xxx        I know everybody has a number
xxx        everybody is assigned a number.
xxx IS5:   yep but I'm not the last number.
xxx I1:    but you will notice who is the last person
xxx        ((laughing))
xxx IS5:   (I won't notice)
xxx        I don't care so much!
xxx I1:    ((laughing))
xxx IS5:   I mean
xxx        I'm just that kind of person.
xxx        I don't-
xxx I1:    you don't pay attention to anybody else
xxx IS5:   I don't pay attention to the environment.
xxx I1:    ok
xxx IS5:   yea
xxx        I don't know
xxx        my mom often asked me when I was young
xxx        ask me
xxx        how many students in your class?
xxx I1:    ((laughing))
xxx IS5:   and I don't know
xxx I1:    oh that's bad
```

```
xxx         I have this problem
xxx         I can't remember people's face
xxx IS5:    ok
xxx I1:     so I have problem recognizing faces
xxx IS5:    I'm not that bad but-
xxx I1:     and I'm bad with memorizing peoples' names
xxx IS5:    actually (it's not good) ((laughs))
xxx I1:     so::
xxx         like there are so many times when someone I think
xxx         >oh maybe I know this person
xxx         this person approaches me and started conversation with me<
xxx         and I don't know what the name is
xxx IS5:    and that is-
xxx I1:     so awkward
xxx IS5:    I
xxx         I can remember their name
xxx         but I will forgot it quickly ((too))
xxx         >like I remembered< once
xxx         I was
xxx         fifteen.
xxx I1:     ok
xxx IS5:    and I graduated from high
xxx         like middle school
xxx I1:     ok
xxx IS5:    and after a year
Xxx          º((alternate add: i go bac-))º
xxx         I went back home
xxx         and meet my classmates a middle school
xxx         and they said hi to me
xxx         and I know they were my classmates
xxx         but I don't know
xxx         I didn't remember their names.
xxx         I can't remember their name.
xxx I1:     shame on you
xxx         ((laughing))
xxx         so what happened them?
xxx         you just didn't call them?
xxx         you just say hey
xxx IS5:    hi::::
xxx         I never tried to
xxx         ºsay their nameº
xxx I1:     ok
xxx IS5:    I have to ask my mom
xxx         who is he?
xxx I1:     yea:
```

```
xxx         I totally understand that.
xxx         one time in my life
xxx         I saw one of my cousins
xxx         >but this is not a close cousins<
xxx         it's a distant cousin
xxx         and then um
xxx         I
xxx         I was thinking
xxx         oh my god
xxx         I think I know this person but I don't
xxx         I don't really know who this person is
xxx IS5:    >my father and my mom<
9:00
xxx         >they have a lot of relatives <
xxx I1:     yea
xxx IS5:    and I can't remember them
xxx         every time ((laughs))
xxx         they came to my home,
xxx         and I have to ask my mom
xxx         who is he?
xxx         who is she?
xxx         and tell me
xxx         because
xxx I1:     no I'm feel better now
xxx         because I know you are just like me
xxx IS5:    I am
xxx         and you are probably
xxx         worse than me
xxx IS5:    um:
xxx         I'm happy now
xxx IS5:    ((incomprehensible)) yea I'm worse
xxx I1:     what was the-
xxx IS5:    like if you ask
xxx         how many students in this class
xxx         in this office
xxx I1:     mm
xxx IS5:    right
xxx         I have to-
xxx I1:     count
xxx IS5:    count like
xxx         who is in the office
xxx         and get
xxx         get the number
xxx         I can't tell you
xxx I1:     ((laughs))
```

```
xxx IS5:   how many
xxx        I don't know why
xxx I1:    but when you are taking classes
xxx        right?
xxx IS5:   mhm
xxx I1:    how many people are usually in your class?
xxx        in graduate level class?
xxx        do you have a lot?
xxx        oh!
xxx        do you take class with MA students or only PhD students?
xxx IS5:   MA students yes
xxx I1:    and you don't know any MA students right?
xxx IS5:   I don't know who is MA and who is PhD
xxx I1:    ((laughs))
xxx        this is not good
xxx        you should know your people!
xxx        you should know your PhD buddies
xxx IS5:   I just know ok
xxx        he is in this department
xxx I1:    ((laughs))
xxx IS5:   but I don't know who is MA who is PhD
xxx        because I never
xxx        I won't ask them.
xxx I1:    ok
xxx IS5:   and I just feel like
xxx I1:    if he is a PhD or Master
xxx IS5:   it has no influence on me ((laughs))
xxx I1:    true
xxx IS5:   right
xxx I1:    but PhD students are those who will keep
xxx        um
xxx        company with you for the rest of your 5 years
xxx IS5:   yes
xxx        [maybe
xxx I1:    [MA students they will graduate and they leave in 2 years
xxx IS5:   but
xxx I1:    alright
xxx        [not
xxx IS5:   [I'm I'm so
xxx        lazy
xxx        >actually Prof He asked me for several times how many
xxx        students in my
xxx        program
xxx        and how many exchange students in my program<
xxx        I never give her a exact number
```

```
xxx I1:    you know what?
xxx        I'm giving you a homework assignment
xxx IS5:   I I
xxx        I can't finish it
xxx I1:    no you can just go to your department website
xxx        and they count how many PhD students are there
xxx IS5:   but there is total number
xxx        but I cannot get the number for each grade
xxx I1:    it's ok
xxx        how many students in your grade?
xxx        this one you have to know
xxx IS5:   you mean
xxx I1:    first year students
xxx IS5:   I don't know!
xxx I1:    but
xxx        there are not many people
xxx        right?
xxx        it's usually 5 to 10
xxx IS5:   >oh nanananno<
xxx        more than that
xxx I1:    oh really?
xxx IS5:   more than that
xxx        (if it's five to ten)-
xxx I1:    oh so you do have
xxx IS5:   more than that
xxx I1:    I mean first year PhD student
xxx IS5:   yea
xxx        I think it's more than 10
xxx        because
xxx        I know
xxx IS5:   °there are 3 or 4 Indian° ((counts with fingers))
xxx I1:    ok
xxx IS5:   and maybe
xxx        4 or 5 Chinese guy
xxx I1:    but that's office!
xxx IS5:   [(I'm not a Chinese guy)
xxx I1:    [there's not that much room
xxx IS5:   huh?
xxx I1:    so you have=
xxx IS5:   =oh but
xxx I1:    [oh so there are
xxx IS5:   [there are four floors for-
xxx I1:    office?
xxx IS5:   four floors for office for students and
xxx        professors
```

```
12:00
xxx I1:     wow:
xxx         so this is a big department
xxx IS5:    yea this is a big department.
xxx         students
xxx I1:     alright
xxx IS5:    there are a lot of students so
xxx I1:     I'm sorry
xxx         I will take that homework assignment back
xxx         because in our department
xxx         like my year has 3 students
xxx         so we know each other
xxx IS5:    oh (cool)
xxx I1:     yea
xxx         so I was thinking
xxx         like the small size
xxx IS5:    but but
xxx         they are uh
xxx         PhD
xxx         I'm in my officemates are °PhD.°
xxx I1:     ((laughs))
xxx         ok
xxx         did
xxx         tell me one
xxx         interesting activities you did
xxx         with your
xxx         officemate
xxx IS5:    play
xxx         play board games
xxx I1:     did you win?
xxx IS5:    (.) never
xxx I1:     never
xxx IS5:    never
xxx I1:     oh my god
xxx         because no-
xxx IS5:    but I have never lose too
xxx I1:     really?
xxx         you're in the middle
xxx         the average person
xxx IS5:    yea
xxx         what kind of board game?
xxx IS5:    Seven Wonders ((add: °it's over there°))
xxx I1:     is Seven Wonders a funny game?
xxx         interesting game?
xxx         I've only heard but I've never played it
```

```
xxx IS5:   it's funny
xxx I1:    what is it about?
xxx        is it?
xxx        is it like
xxx        building-
xxx IS5:   building a city
xxx I1:    building a city
xxx IS5:   it's just
xxx        it's just count the victory points
xxx I1:    what counts as a victory?
xxx IS5:   like points
xxx I1:    uhuh
xxx IS5:   you win like
xxx        there are different kinds of cards
xxx I1:    ok
xxx IS5:   and the cards according to the cards ᵒyou will get theᵒ
xxx        corresponding points
xxx I1:    what
xxx        are those cards
xxx        made
xxx        like
xxx        do you have to do certain activity
xxx        or do you have to build something
EVA IS5:   I would have to just put it in front of you
EVA        if you have the c- c- corresponding source
EVA        resources
xxx I1:    ok I will google how
xxx IS5:   like if you want to know
xxx        he
xxx        is a very good teacher
xxx I1:    it's ok
xxx        uh
xxx        off camera
xxx        I will go ask
xxx IS5:   but yea
xxx        he's a very good teacher
xxx I1:    Seven Wonders
xxx IS5:   ((whispers)) ᵒyou can try to play itᵒ
xxx I1:    I bought it for my brother's birthday
xxx IS5:   oh
xxx        how much
xxx I1:    it's expensive
xxx        it's
xxx        um
xxx        $60?
```

```
xxx IS5:    oh
xxx I1:     ºpretty expensive I thinkº
xxx IS5:    do you have a car?
xxx I1:     car?
xxx IS5:    mm
xxx I1:     yes I do
xxx IS5:    cool!
xxx I1:     but I
xxx         uh
xxx         I didn't own the car
xxx         I lease the car
xxx         and
xxx         I'm returning the car to the dealer
xxx IS5:    what you lease it fffor
xxx         several years?
xxx I1:     for three years
xxx IS5:    oh how much
xxx         how much
xxx I1:     you pay $200 every month
xxx IS5:    $200?!
xxx I1:     $200 every month
xxx         mhm
xxx IS5:    every month?
xxx I1:     mm
xxx         so you cost
xxx I1:     I spend
xxx         $10,000
xxx IS5:    but why don't you buy one
xxx         if you buy one
xxx         you can
xxx I1:     but I didn't like that car that much
xxx IS5:    but if you buy one like
xxx         you will spend $1000
xxx         $10000
xxx I1:     so I already spend $10000
xxx         and in March I have to return it
xxx         but um I can also buy it
xxx         and pay
xxx         the rest of the balance to buy the car
xxx IS5:    uh huh
xxx I1:     and I have to
xxx IS5:    if you spend $10,000 to buy a car
15:00
xxx         maybe not that car
xxx         >maybe that car is< better
```

```
xxx I1:    right
xxx IS5:   >but if you spend to buy a car and then you<
xxx        you sell it when you leave
xxx        so maybe you can get some money back
xxx I1:    I um
xxx        the way that I plan to do is to trade in for second hand
car
xxx        with similar value
xxx        and that way I don't have to spend any more money but I xxx
     can own a car
xxx        I can get a car.
xxx        and now it's the (.)
xxx        it's the fighting with the dealership
xxx        have you very been to a car dealer?
xxx        car dealership?
xxx IS5:   no
xxx I1:    it's horrible
xxx        they are trying to sell you the
xxx        most ugly car to you
xxx IS5:   oh °I can understand°
xxx        it's their
xxx        it's their job
xxx I1:    yea and then
xxx        and everytime I go there
xxx IS5:   try to- ((incomprehensible))
xxx        they avoid all my questions
xxx        like
xxx        oh don't think about that
xxx        what?
xxx        how about this car?
xxx        how about that car?
xxx IS5:   yea
xxx        they're trying to pursue you
xxx I1:    and I'm like I don't care this is so ugly!
xxx        I don't want a cheap ((alternative: jeep))
xxx        stop give me a cheap
xxx IS5:   you just want me to
xxx I1:    yea
xxx IS5:   make you buy a car
xxx        <with a higher price>
xxx I1:    mhm
```