SERBIAN LANGUAGE

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The preliminary adaptation for Serbian language was based on the long forms of CDI-I: Words and gestures (8-18 months) and CDI-II: Words and Sentences (16-30 months). The following procedure in adaptation was done for both inventories:

1. Vocabulary items of CDI-I and CDI-II were checked for the frequency in spontaneous children production by means of the Serbian Corpus of Early Child Language (SCECL in the CHILDES database) (Anđelković, Ševa, & Moskovljević, 2001). Rare and low frequent words were replaced by more frequent ones, preserving the semantic and grammatical category of particular items.

2. Qualitative inspection of the inventories was conducted in focus group discussions organized with experts and parents of young children. Thorough adjustments of items to Serbian morphosyntactic properties were made. Structural modifications of grammatical sections were introduced for the purpose of easier parents’ understanding and report - a dialogical form was applied, and additional instructions and examples provided.

3. Adaptation for Serbian language was conducted in both dominant pronounciations of Serbian (Ekavian and Ijekavian) including the minor varieties in vocabulary and expressions.

4. The preliminary version of CDI-I and CDI-II was tested in a pilot study with 124 participants (balanced across gender, parents’ educational level, and Ekavica vs. Ijekavica).

The inventories are available upon requests with attached detailed instructions for parents on how to complete the questionnaires. Norms and manual are not available yet. Standardization is planned. The results obtained in the pilot study will soon provide some preliminary findings on regularities in communicative development of Serbian children.

Publications:


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