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Nota di contenuto

Introduction: the interest of article acquisition for theories of SLA / Maria del Pilar Garcia Mayo and Roger Hawkins -- Article choice in L2 English by Spanish speakers: evidence for full transfer / Maria del Pilar Garcia Mayo -- Accounting for non-target like performance in L2 English article production by native speakers of Syrian Arabic and French / Ghisseh Sarko -- Questioning the validity of the article choice parameter and the fluctuation hypothesis: evidence from L2 English article use by L1 Polish and L1 Mandarin Chinese speakers / Marta Tryzna -- The processing role of the article choice parameter: evidence from L2 learners of English / Lucy Kyoungsook Kim and Usha Lakshmanan -- Accounting for patterns of article omissions and substitutions in second language production / Danijela Trenkic -- Article use and generic reference: parallels between L1- and L2-acquisition / Tania Ionin and Silvina Montrul -- Variability in the L2 acquisition of Norwegian DPs: an evaluation of some current SLA models / Fufen Jin, Tor A. Afarli, and Wim A. van Dommelen -- Articles in Turkish/English interlanguage revisited: implications of vowel harmony / Heather Goad and Lydia White -- Article choice and article omission in the L3 German of native speakers of Japanese with L2 English / Carol Jaensch.

Sommario/riassunto

The studies in this collection address a topic that has recently become the focus of considerable interest in second language acquisition (SLA) research: the acquisition of articles. Languages appear to vary in whether they have articles (English, German, Norwegian do, but Chinese, Japanese, Russian do not). Languages that have articles also appear to divide into those that realise definiteness (e.g. English) and those that realise specificity (e.g. Samoan). When speakers of one type of language learn an L2 of a different type, issues of central concern to SLA research arise: the nature of L1 influence, the time course of development, ultimate attainment, the relationship between performance and competence, and the role of Universal Grammar. These issues are considered in nine studies, written by researchers whose work is at the forefront of enquiry, that offer new data, new perspectives and new insights into the way L2 speakers acquire articles.
