



## **THE IMPACTS OF BILINGUALISM ON CHILDREN'S LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**

Alimova Madinabonu Islomjon qizi

Student of Uzbekistan State World Languages University

Gmail: bonumadina008@gmail.com

### **ABSTRACT**

Bilingualism has been shown to have a positive impact on children's language development. Studies have shown that bilingual children generally have a better understanding of grammar and syntax, as well as a broader vocabulary than their monolingual peers. Indeed, learning two languages forces children to constantly switch between different language systems, which can improve their cognitive flexibility and problem-solving skills.

Bilingualism can also help children develop better communication skills by learning how to navigate different cultural contexts and communicate with people from diverse backgrounds. In addition, bilingualism can lead to increased cultural awareness and empathy, as children are exposed to different perspectives and ways of thinking. However, it is important to note that the benefits of bilingualism can depend on factors such as the age at which a child begins to learn a second language, the level of exposure to each language, and the quality of education that children receive. It is also important for parents and educators to support bilingual children in maintaining and developing both languages, as they may face social pressure to prioritize one language over another.

### **KEYWORDS**

Bilingualism, Children's development, language learning, multiple languages.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Overall, bilingualism can have a significant positive impact on children's language development and should be encouraged and supported in an educational setting. Bilingualism is a fascinating topic that has received a lot of attention in recent years. As the world becomes more global, the ability to speak more than one language becomes more and more valuable. Research has shown that bilingualism can have a positive impact on children's language development, leading to better grammar and syntax, a broader vocabulary, and improved cognitive flexibility. knowledge and problem-solving skills. In this article, we will explore the benefits of bilingualism for children's language development and discuss some of the factors that can influence its effectiveness. We will also provide advice to parents and educators on how to help bilingual children maintain and develop both languages.

Bilingualism is considered to be a rare phenomenon, but it is a myth. About 43% of the world's population is bilingual and 17% multilingual — they speak more than two languages. Despite the fact

that this phenomenon is very common, there is no single definition for the concept itself. For example, Canadian linguist William McKay says it is the ability to alternately use two languages, no matter how many times a person speaks them. Swiss scientist François Grosjean describes bilinguals as people who also use some language in their daily lives. The widely accepted option is a combination of these opinions: a bilingual person is someone who regularly uses two languages and speaks them at a sufficient level for effective communication.

What is bilingual?

A very common misconception: only people who are fluent in multiple languages from an early age can be considered bilingual. In fact, there are several types of bilingualism. By age:

- Early simultaneous bilingualism—the child learns both languages until age 3-4.
- Early sequential bilingualism — the child first learns the mother tongue, then the second until transitional age.
- Late (late sequential bilingualism) — an adult intentionally learning a second language. By skill level:
  - Balanced (coordinated/balanced bilingualism) — if both languages are at a high level. Bilinguals of this type see each language as a separate system in which the concepts and grammatical structures do not overlap with the second language.
  - Unbalanced (sub-bilingual/unbalanced) — when one develops better than the other. Usually, such bilingualism develops in adults who have moved to another country, and now their native language manifests in speech in the form of tracings or borrowed words.
  - Mixed (compound bilingualism) — when language systems merge and a person does not always recognize the grammar and vocabulary of the language they are using at the time. It is often found in early bilinguals. At the same time, being bilingual does not necessarily mean being perfectly fluent in both languages. They know each thing to the extent necessary: for example, they can speak fluently in one part and read better in the second.
- Bilinguals have developed cognitive control, a function that allows them to focus on what's important and ignore what isn't. As a result, they set more specific goals and tackle different tasks better.
- Improved cognitive function also affects the learning process. For example, bilingual adults learn a third language faster than monolinguals learn a second language. They focus on the new language and reduce interference from those who already know.
- Being bilingual reduces the risk of developing age-related brain diseases and helps counteract the effects of dementia. Knowledge of several languages contributes to what is known as cognitive reserve. The essence of the idea is that throughout life, people accumulate knowledge and create a reserve of mental abilities to protect the brain in old age. This can be compared to the accumulation of muscle mass: first we exercise for growth, then with a calorie deficit or with age we lose. The more muscle we have in the first place, the longer we stay in shape.

Studies have also confirmed that early language learning has a positive impact on later learning ability and thus increases a child's self-confidence. At the age of 3-4 years, children have psychological characteristics that allow them to easily master new skills. At this age, language learning is seen as a game rather than a tedious and forced learning task. Children tend to answer questions and are not afraid of making mistakes and saying the wrong thing. The process of mastering speech occurs at the intuitive level, and the acquired skills are maintained for

a long time. And most importantly, the child does not develop a fear of foreign languages, as before something complicated. By natural curiosity, children quickly understand the logic of speech and also quickly begin to speak. Children can easily speak multiple languages at the same time without being confused with them. It is also important that language learning is a powerful stimulation of the brain, the development of intellectual abilities. Mastering new speech has been shown to increase the number of neurons and the connections between them, which speeds up the brain's processing of information. In addition, language lessons develop pronunciation and improve sensory perception. Language learning at an early age also contributes to the correct development of phonetics. Children easily reproduce the tiniest nuances, due to the fact that the process of automating the sound is not yet complete. Starting to learn languages at an early age, at school the kids already speak a foreign language fluently, and a lot of things - with absolutely no stress.

## References:

1. Baker C (2006). Foundations of bilingual education and bilingualism
2. Cook V. (1997). "The consequences of bilingualism for cognitive processing". *Tutorials in Bilingualism: Psycholinguistic Perspectives*: 279–300.
3. O'Grady W, Cho SW (2011). *First Language Acquisition*. pp. 345–350.
4. <https://www.unipage.net/ru/bilingualism>
5. [https://dzen.ru/media/id/5c7fd1f817b52000b3abef9b/v-chem-pliusy-bilingvizma-u-detei-5d24afe4d5135c00ae3a8a38?utm\\_referer=www.google.co.uz](https://dzen.ru/media/id/5c7fd1f817b52000b3abef9b/v-chem-pliusy-bilingvizma-u-detei-5d24afe4d5135c00ae3a8a38?utm_referer=www.google.co.uz)