

Patterns in German L2 Talk-in-interaction: From Particles to Complex Syntactic Structures

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Since Firth and Wagner's (1997) call for more diverse research methods into second language acquisition (SLA), research investigating interaction in an L2 has flourished. The theory of *interactional competence* (IC) (Hall & Pekarek Doehler 2011) — i.e., the ability to interact in ways recognizable to co-interactants — developed as the field of interactional linguistics (IL) (Couper-Kuhlen & Selting 2001) turned its attention to L2 development. A central contribution of IL to SLA research has been its understanding of L2 grammar "as an adaptive and emergent set of resources by which participants accomplish actions in mutually recognisable ways" (Pekarek Doehler 2018: 3), i.e., as a *grammar-for-interaction*.

Research on the development of L2 IC shows that a primary component of a grammar-for-interaction is the development of practices for accomplishing actions (Pekarek Doehler & Skogmyr Marian 2022). Current research on L2 French investigates how L2 speakers begin by using linguistic 'chunks' — such as *tu vois* 'you see' (Skogmyr-Maria, in press) — in their literal meaning; as the L2 speakers interact more in the L2, they start developing and indeed preferring more interaction-organizational uses of such linguistic chunks. These studies demonstrate that an interactional approach of L2-data can reveal one way in which L2 speakers become more interactionally competent, i.e., by using recurrent patterns on different complexity-levels reaching from particles to complex syntactic patterns like pseudo-clefts.

Our present paper contributes to research on linguistic chunks, in German L2 talk-in-interaction. Rather than investigating one specific phenomenon in detail, we provide an overview of possible patterns. Investigating 8 hours of audio-recordings of L2 German interaction, we explore how L2 speakers acquire linguistic patterns on a lexical and syntactic level, including *keine Ahnung* ('no idea'), *ich glaube* ('I believe'), pseudo-clefts with *was* ('what') and clause-combining with verb-second syntax following a subordinating conjunction (e.g., *weil* 'because').

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