

Report Example

Research Review Report¹

Department of Psycholinguistics - WorldBridge Education

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Cognitive Effects of Bilingualism Report³

06/15/2016

Reviewed articles:

- Bialystok & Codd, 1997
- Bialystok & Senman, 2004
- Bialystok et al., 2004
- Bialystok et al., 2010
- Gollan et al., 2002
- Gollan et al., 2005
- Ransdell & Fischler, 1987⁴

Negative Effects of Bilingualism on Language Development:

- Smaller vocabulary size – having to “store double” words results in knowing fewer lexical items in both languages
- Slower and less accurate picture naming – When shown a picture bilinguals take longer and are less precise than monolinguals are
- Bilinguals result overall less fluent

¹ *Report Type*: Specify the type of report you are writing.

² *Institution*: Specify the name of the Institution

³ *Report Title*

⁴ *References*: Try using titles for each paragraph, and start providing references for your arguments.

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- More tip-of-the-tongue state (i.e. successful semantic processing but failure of the phonological one)
- Slower in lexical decisions – bilinguals take longer to decide whether something is a real word or not.⁵

Negative Effects Conclusions:

These are all effects of language interference (i.e. the effect that one language has on the speaker's ability to comprehend and articulate the other).⁶

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Positive Effects of Bilingualism on Language Development:

- Greater task-switching and multitasking abilities – frequent language switching leads to better inhibition of distracting stimuli and better management of multiple stimuli at once.
- Better understanding of cardinality – bilinguals are more used to looking at stimuli from multiple angles.
- Better at distinguishing appearances from reality – bilinguals are more used to interpreting stimuli in different ways.

Long-Term Positive Effects of Bilingualism on Cognitive State:

- Lifelong bilingualism (starting in early adulthood at the latest) protects individuals against cognitive decline by reducing the rate of the natural slowing that comes with age.
- Lifelong bilinguals (starting in early adulthood at the latest) diagnosed with dementia on average show symptoms of the disease 4 years later than comparable monolinguals.
- Lifelong bilinguals (starting from early adulthood at the latest) diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease on average show symptoms of the disease later than comparable monolinguals – no signs that it slows down the progression of it, but just raises the threshold that needs to be reached before showing symptoms.
- Current studies seem to be showing that trilingualism may enhance these long-term benefits to an even greater degree.

⁵ *Arguments:* Explain briefly and concisely your points following a logical order. If you can, try using bullet-points.

⁶ *Conclusion:* Have a brief conclusion, where you summarize your main points.

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Positive Effects Conclusions:

These benefits rely on the enhanced neuroplasticity and improved inhibitory control that come with frequent switching between two (or more) languages and dealing with language interference.

Chiara Dellea

Research Reviewer

Director of Studies

WorldBridge Education⁷

⁷ *Signature*: try including your titles, so your reader can understand what authority you have to be writing this report.

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