Abstract

Past research has documented that the left hemisphere of the brain appears to be a more efficient temporal processor than the right, making it ideal for complex systems such as language that depend on fast coordination and rapid transitions during output. The lesser efficiency of the right hemisphere in processing of spoken language suggests that right-hemisphere-dominant speakers are limited to a slower speech rate or more disfluencies. The intent of this study is to determine, through the use of a dichotic listening task and analysis of elicited and spontaneous speech samples, whether right-hemisphere language dominant individuals are affected by the less efficient temporal processing by their dominant hemisphere in their rate of speech and number of disfluencies.