ABSTRACT

The results of phonological subtests of the Multilevel Linguistic Test proposed to stutterers can be inherent to stutterers' "dialect." Its existence is connected with the changes in the syntactic and the semantic levels. Stutter can be compared with the slip of tongue in the frame of time-space planning model of stuttering. Certain features of the disorder are similar to child language and aphasia.

In the last years the problem of definition of the stuttering phenomenon has been widely discussed in the literature (see, e.g., 1, 2). It seems however, that the linguistic "diagnosis" for stuttering, i.e., the study of the functions and levels of stutterers' language system is more important. It was shown in (3) and in some other reports, stutterers evidenced serious disturbances in the scene analysis/synthesis and its description, in the functional description of objects, in composing, storing and producing complex phrases, in completing long phrases and other semantic and syntactic difficulties. Bilingualism and language interference are to be considered as causing particular troubles in the patients.

The hypothesis implicates the following problems:

1. As phonological subtests of the Multilevel Linguistic Test proposed to stutterers were being treated at the Speech Pathology Center in Moscow, stutter can be interpreted as a new distinctive feature inherent to stutterers' "dialect." Its existence is connected with the changes in the syntactic and the semantic levels. Stutter can be compared with the slip of tongue in the frame of time-space planning model of stuttering. Certain features of the disorder are similar to child language and aphasia.

2. Instead of saying "DON ("home") I say "DOM/"("room"). The language the fox speaks. How do you think he will say "BAR/" ("bar").

A. ---

B. (the first question repeated) How will he say "TAXI/" ("tax")?

A. "BAR/"

B. "DOM/" - it's when you fall and something is going to be broken.

C. (the question repeated) - A. "BAR/" - it's when it's "BOL"/0/ ("pain").

D. (the repeated question) What will he say for "BOL/" ("tool")?

A. "FOL/"... "FOL/R/" ("roller" - "rabbit") (the answer shows that the kid understood that he was asked to change only the first word but tried to do it later in her /NAMPA/ for /LAMP/). She could not get was how the sounds were related; is her favour for semantic association (instead of phonetic changing a general tendency in stutterers?)

She could not correct me when she asked about /LAK/ ("luggage") instead of /RAK/ ("crab"). But then she asked me what I will say for /KERASK/ ("paints"). I answered /KLEAST/ , she reacted: /ZEKAST/ ("even""). The phonetic subtest and actually the number of her stutterings is rather small. Anyway, the comparison between stutterers and normal children must be the problem for further investigation.

3. The problem of time-space planning may be in the children's pronunciation: about what to stutterers are to be considered as being in the process of the development of the disorder. There are indications that the tongue is involved in the slip of tongue (that, as already said, may be preliminary supposed that the tongue is involved in the speech of stutterers). The investigation started when she was 3:2 and 4:3. The stuttered word differs from the non-stuttered word not only phonetically, but also with respect to certain movements (50 to SPEAK, LORD, etc) appeared.

The investigation started when she was 4:3. The phonetical subtests designed personally for her were the following:

REFERENCES


/2/ N. V. Ivanov. Speech disorders, Mentality.