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The linguistic constraint on contraction in children with SLI

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Highlights

- Children with SLI prefer to use contracted BE forms ('s) over the full BE form (is)
- Children with SLI obey the constraint at similar rates as typically-developing children
- On this aspect of linguistic knowledge, children with SLI have the same underlying grammar as TD children

1. Introduction

Children with specific language impairment (SLI) are most often described as a group of children who have difficulty with various aspects of language, in the absence of cognitive impairment, hearing difficulty, or physical abnormality of the speech apparatus (Leonard, 2014). One area of particular weakness for children with SLI is with obligatory use of verbal tense marking morphology. This finding has been widely reported across various studies both in English and

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