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It depends: optionality in the production of filer-gap dependencies

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#### **Abstract**

This study investigates the language production mechanisms underlying the creation of filler-gap dependencies (e.g., relative clauses: This is the boy that the girl from Norway saw\_yesterday), which require speakers to establish an argument-predicate relationship between a phrase, the 'filler', (the boy) and a further embedded predicate (saw). We show that filler-gap dependency production involves the retention of a representation of the filler until the relevant embedded position. We then report three elicitation experiments examining how English and Hebrew speakers manage and moderate filler retention demands via production choices. In Experiments 1 (English) and 2 (Hebrew), speakers produced restrictive relative clauses and non-restrictive relative clauses with the latter predicted to impede filler retention. In Experiment 3 (Hebrew), speakers produced relative clauses with and without intervening material creating interference for filler retention. We found that English speakers use passivization to moderate filler-retention demands via the creation of shorter dependencies. In Hebrew, impeded filler retention resulted in increased rate of grammatical resumption. We conclude that the production of filler-gap dependencies invokes cognitive strategies that manage the memory burdens that they impose **Keywords**: Sentence production, Production choices, Retention, Filler-gap dependencies, passive, resumption

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Language production involves complex procedures, including the mapping of abstract notions to lexically represented concepts and the integration of these items into grammatically well-formed structures (Bock & Levelt, 1994; Dell, Chang & Griffin, 1999; Garrett, 1988; Levelt, 1999, among many others). Central to this complexity are the many micro-decisions speakers make during this process. Studying the circumstances and considerations leading speakers to prefer one production alternative over another is hence fundamental to understanding the subtleties of the production system.

Like many other production processes, structure building often requires speakers to decide between several constructions permitted by their grammar. For example, when describing a pushing incident between a girl and a boy, speakers choose whether to produce an active sentence (*The girl pushed the boy*) or a passive sentence (*The boy was pushed by the girl*). In some contexts, they can choose between using a full noun phrase (*the boy*) or a pronoun (*him*) to refer to the pushed party. If they wish to also report the boy's emotional reaction, they can do so using coordination (*The girl pushed the boy and he is crying*) or by using a subordinate clause (*The boy that the girl pushed is crying*). This clause can also be encoded in different ways. For example, English speakers can either use or omit the word *that* from their description and Hebrew speakers can either produce a resumptive pronoun after the verb *pushed* (*The boy that the girl pushed* him *is crying*) or leave the direct object unpronounced.

This paper focuses on a particular structural relationship that gives rise to optionality in production, namely *filler-gap dependencies* (also referred to as *long distance* or *unbounded* dependencies). This type of construction includes an argument-predicate relationship between a phrase (the *filler*, as in *the secretary*, *which book*, and *the brown cow* in 1-3) and a predicate (*stalked*, *brought*, *from* in 1-3) in a deeper (i.e., further embedded) position. The position in

which the filler is interpreted remains unpronounced and is dubbed the *gap*. Examples (1)-(3) present three structures exhibiting this type of dependency. In what follows, fillers are italicized, clause boundaries are indicated by square brackets and gap sites are represented as underscores.

- (1) This is the secretary that [John told us [\_\_ stalked the manager]]. (Relative clause)
- (2) Which book did [the teacher think [the student brought \_\_ to class]]? (wh-question)
- (3) It was *the brown cow* [that the chocolate milk had come from \_\_]. (Cleft)

Existing research on the processing of filler-gap dependencies has mainly investigated how they are parsed during comprehension. Evidence from cross-modal priming and probe-identification studies indicate that during comprehension, the semantic representation of the filler decays throughout the dependency and is reactivated at the gap (Love & Swinney, 1996; McElree, 2000; Nicol, Fodor, & Swinney, 1994; Nicol & Swinney, 1989). In addition, it is well-established that comprehenders process filler-gap dependencies 'actively' by positing a gap at the first possible position without waiting for conclusive evidence for a missing argument (Frazier, 1987; Garnsey, Tanenhaus, & Chapman, 1989; Lee, 2004; Omaki & Schulz, 2011; Phillips, 2006; Stowe, 1986; Traxler & Pickering, 1996; Wagers & Phillips 2009, 2014, among others; for a comprehensive review see Phillips & Wagers, 2007). Wagers and Phillips (2014) propose a model that accounts for the accumulated findings on dependency comprehension by assuming two complementary processes: maintenance of some of the filler's features throughout processing of the dependency; and retrieval of the other features (including the full semantic representation of the filler) upon its resolution.

In contrast, much is still unknown about the mechanisms underlying the production of filler-gap dependencies. In what follows we argue that the production of utterances which include filler-gap dependencies must involve retention of some representation of the filler throughout the generation of the dependency. We then report a series of experiments designed to identify how this demand modulates production choices during the formation of object relative clauses in English (Experiment 1) and Hebrew (Experiments 2 and 3), two SVO languages allowing different sets of possibilities for the creation of structures with filler-gap dependencies.

#### **Background**

## **Dependency Production Demands Filler Retention**

As explained above, in filler-gap dependencies, a phrase (the filler) is not fully interpreted where it occurs, but rather in a different position, which typically remains unpronounced. In (1)–(3), for example, the phrases *the secretary*, *which book* and *the brown cow* are respectively interpreted as the arguments of the predicates *stalk*, *bring* and *from*, embedded two clauses deeper. Crucially for our purposes, in English (and other languages) *stalk*, *bring* and *from* cannot occur with missing arguments in the absence of a filler-gap dependency. The argument structure information associated with these predicates, typically assumed to be represented at the lemma level or on a syntactic structure node as part of a word's network, specifies that they must realize a noun phrase in these positions. During production, this information is used to generate the syntactic structure of the utterance, determining its constituents (Bock & Levelt, 1994; Dell & O'Seaghdha, 1994; F. Ferreira 2000; Levelt, 1989, 1999, Pickering & Branigan 1998, for reviews see F. Ferreira & Engelhardt, 2006; Postma 2000). Accordingly, ill formed utterances like in examples (4) – (6) would normally not be

generated, and, if they were, would be detected via self-monitoring (De Smedt & Kempen, 1987; Levelt 1989, 1999; for a review see Postma, 2000) and most likely corrected.

- (4) John told us [\_\_ stalked the manager].
- (5) The teacher thinks [the student brought \_\_ to class].
- (6) The chocolate milk had come from \_\_\_.

Nevertheless, speakers regularly produce sentences like (1)–(3), even though they include the ill-formed strings in (4)-(6). This means that these strings are generated and articulated in well-formed utterances, but only when they are embedded under a filler exhibiting a dependency with the gapped argument. Hence, the production system can recognize certain constructions, specifically, filler-gap dependencies, as allowing arguments that are represented at the message level, even obligatory ones, to remain unrealized in their typical position. Moreover, upon the production of filler-gap constructions, the system refrains from generating (both obligatory and optional) arguments in this position, as demonstrated by the ill-formedness of utterances like (7) in English.

(7) I saw the boy that I like the boy/him.

Filler-gap dependencies are thus encoded during production in a manner that enables the generation of sentences like (1) - (3), but avoids ill-formed constructions like (4) - (7).

Arguments that exist at the message-level cannot be gapped in the manner demonstrated above in the absence of a filler, and when an embedded argument position is associated with a filler, it

cannot be realized again by a clause-internal phrase in the canonical argument position. To achieve this, speakers must be able to keep track of the well-formedness of these constructions as they produce them. To this end, some information about the filler, minimally its existence and its status as an argument of an embedded predicate, must be maintained until the dependency is completed.

Even under the assumption of retention of information about the filler, other questions about the architecture of this mechanism remain open. One of these questions is how the argument structure demands and selectional requirements of the embedded predicate are satisfied. One possibility is that the production of filler-gap dependencies involves mechanisms similar to the ones guiding their parsing, as predicted by views maintaining that production and comprehension use the same representation-building mechanisms (Kempen, 2000; Momma & Phillips, 2018). For languages like English, in which fillers are articulated before the gapped clause, this entails that the predicate-argument relationship between the embedded head and the filler is created through maintenance of some of the filler's properties throughout production of the dependency, and retrieval of others around the planning and/or production of the predicate that encodes it as an argument (at the gap site). The second possibility is that since speakers, as opposed to listeners, have propositional knowledge of the utterance they are producing, a retrieval mechanism like the one assumed for comprehension is redundant. Speakers are not required to verify that the filler can be interpreted as the gapped argument in the same way listeners do, and hence it is not necessary that they reactivate it at the predicate (for a similar discussion see Momma & Phillips, 2018). Such a view could then suggest that the relationship between the embedded predicate and the filler is achieved, rather than by retrieval of the filler at the gap, by predetermination of the argument-predicate relationship between them upon planning the relative clause. For a language like English this would mean that the production of a filler involves planning the relevant embedded predicate, encoding the filler's interpretation as one of its arguments and maintaining this relationship throughout the production of the relative clause. This, in turn, would license a gap in the embedded argument position.

We suggest, then, that retention of information about the filler is necessary for verifying that the grammatical encoding of the connection between the filler and gap positions is well-formed. Moreover, this entails that under circumstances that challenge information retention, fillers should be more difficult to maintain. Thus, we predict that speakers' production choices will reflect a pressure to moderate these retention costs.

One way to minimize filler-retention demands in the production of certain types of dependencies is producing passive structures when that permits the gap to be produced earlier. We next turn to review studies that examined structural choices between the active and passive voice in the production of object relative clauses.

#### Passivization in the Production of Object Relative Clauses

Gennari, Mirković and MacDonald (2012) report a series of experiments that elicited the production of direct object relative clauses in English, Spanish and Serbian. In the first set of experiments, speakers were prompted to use relative clauses to modify animate or inanimate entities interpreted as patients or themes in the embedded clause. For example, given a depiction of a woman (animate) punching a yellow bag (inanimate) or a bald man (animate), participants had to answer "what is yellow?" or "who is bald?", respectively. In English, the answers can be formulated as actives (*The bag/man* [that the woman is punching\_]) where the filler is interpreted in object position, or as passives (*The bag/man* [that \_ is being punched (by the woman)]) where

the filler is interpreted in subject position and the embedded agent is either articulated at the end of the clause or is omitted. Spanish and Serbian speakers can additionally construct active impersonal relative clauses to identify the entity in question. In active impersonals the filler is interpreted in object position and the embedded verb manifests a third-person plural marker indicating an unspecific agent, which remains unpronounced (literally: *'The bag/man* [who are punching \_]').

Gennari et al. observed that in all three languages, speakers tended to produce more passives in the animate condition, which the authors view as a tendency to omit the embedded agent (*woman* in the example above) or "demote" it to final position. A second finding was that speakers of all three languages used more agentless constructions (impersonals and agentless passives) in this condition. Two additional experiments demonstrated that this tendency was related to the semantic similarity between the animate relative head and the embedded agent, as opposed to just its animacy.

Gennari et al. argue that the cross-linguistic tendency to omit or demote the agent in the animate-animate condition, shown to be related to its semantic similarity with the relative head, is consistent with the idea that similarity-based competition was at play. They suggest that as relative heads and relative clauses are planned in temporal proximity, semantic similarity between animate relative heads (fillers) and embedded agents results in similarity-based competition at the conceptual level or at the level of syntactic role assignment, leading to inhibition of the embedded agent's lemma. This is reflected in the production of an agentless clause, or the 'demotion' of the agent to a later position.

Hsiao and MacDonald (2016) report similar results from Mandarin, in which relative heads are uttered after the relative clause. Mandarin speakers produced more passives and omitted

more agents with animate relative heads as compared to inanimate ones. Finally, Montag, Matsuki, Kim and MacDonald (2017) report a replication of Gennari et al.'s findings from English, and a similar tendency to produce more passive relative clauses with animate relative heads as compared to inanimate ones, in Japanese and Korean, which exhibit the same constituent order as Mandarin. In addition to further establishing the importance of similarity-based interference for grammatical encoding, this effect of relative head animacy on the formulation of head final relative clauses also demonstrates that the properties of the not-yet produced relative head can affect the formulation of the prior clause, and hence that Mandarin, Japanese and Korean speakers have planned some aspects of the relative head before producing the first words of the relative clause. This is explained as a result of a need to plan the head noun before or together with the relative clause even though the head is uttered later (Hsiao & MacDonald, 2016; Montag et al. 2017). We return to head final relative clauses in the General Discussion.

The finding that speakers tend to omit more agents from their passivized productions and produce more (agentless) impersonal clauses with animate relative heads is an indication that agent inhibition indeed plays a role in determining structural choices given similarity-based interference. However, there is another factor that should not be overlooked when attempting to explain choices in the production of relative clauses, namely that, as detailed above, they involve the formation of a filler-gap dependency. Taking the occurrence of a filler-gap dependency into account can provide further insight into the factors guiding structural choices in the production of relative clauses as well as the ways speakers moderate information-retention demands during dependency formation.

#### **Filler-Retention Moderation**

Based on the data provided in Gennari et al. (2012, study 1a), 47.5% of all animate head relative clauses in English were passives with a pronounced agent, as compared to 12.5% of all inanimate head relatives. As mentioned above, Gennari et al. refer to this tendency as 'agent demotion' due to its inhibition. An alternative interpretation for this tendency is that because filler-retention is more taxing throughout the processing of similar elements, speakers prefer to produce a construction where the filler is interpreted earlier – that is, in subject position, as this will minimize the demand to maintain its representation. We will refer to this processing consideration as filler retention-moderation.

The idea that early dependency resolution reduces processing load has been extensively explored in the psycholinguistic literature. In comprehension, many accounts for the repeatedly observed contrast between the parsing of subject relative clauses and the costlier parsing of object relative clauses attribute it to a difficulty to integrate the filler at the gap position when more lexical material occurs between them (Gibson, 1998; Grodner & Gibson, 2005; Hawkins 1999, 2003, among others). In production, it has been argued that NP-shift and related phenomena are due to minimization of the distance between two related elements (Diessel, 2005; Hawkins, 1994, 2003; Temperley, 2007; Wasow, 1997). Further, extensive corpus studies demonstrate that dependency length is shorter than what would be expected based on a random distribution, cross-linguistically, (Futrell, Mahowald, & Gibson, 2015; Gildea & Temperley, 2009; Temperley, 2007).

Finally, two experimental studies by Scontras and colleagues (Scontras, Badecker, Shank, Lim, & Fedorenko, 2014; Scontras, Badecker, & Fedorenko, 2017) bring evidence that filler-object dependencies (in English) are more costly to produce than filler-subject ones,

supporting the hypothesis that they require filler maintenance throughout the production of intervening elements (Gibson, 1998). In two experiments, Scontras et al. (2014) elicited the production of subject and object relative clauses and wh-questions (e.g. the reporter [that\_ attacked the senator]/the reporter [that the senator attacked\_]) and measured initiation latencies, durations, and disfluency rates. They observed that object dependencies were produced with longer initiation latencies and durations and more disfluencies than subject ones, concluding they cause difficulty in language production relative to their subject counterparts. In a follow-up study, Scontras et al. (2017) responded to concerns about the validity of the original findings raised by MacDonald, Montag and Gennari (2016). The most crucial critique from MacDonald et al. (2016) was that because participants were instructed not to use passives, difficulty in production of filler-object dependencies was due to suppression of the passive alternative. This was addressed in Scontras et al. (2017) by a conceptual replication (using the written modality) excluding this instruction. The results were that passivization rates were indeed higher with relative clauses as compared to the original experiment, but that this was not the case with whquestions. Hence, passive suppression cannot fully explain the findings reported in Scontras et al. (2014).

Our suggestion that passivization may be a filler retention-moderation technique is consistent with the view that longer dependencies demand filler-retention throughout the processing of more intervening material, hence that their production is more cognitively taxing (Gibson, 1998; Scontras et al. 2014, 2017). In Experiment 1, we test the possibility that increased maintenance demands cause a preference for conveying a given message with shorter dependencies. If our suggestion is correct, and passivization under similarity-based interference

is related to the challenge of retaining the filler, it is predicted that speakers should also tend to passivize more often when facing other retention hindering circumstances.

#### **Experiment 1: Restrictiveness and passivization in English**

To determine whether passive choices are indeed related to retention-moderation, we need to disentangle it from agent-inhibition. The experimental design used in Gennari et al. (2012), which manipulates the semantic similarity between the filler and the agent is not suitable for this purpose. Both agent-inhibition and filler-retention moderation predict the same performance pattern under this manipulation. Similarity-based competition between the filler and embedded agent could either result in agent-inhibition which would lead to passive formation, or hinder filler maintenance, leading speakers to early dependency resolution by passivization. Experiment 1 was designed to disentangle these two scenarios by manipulating the message-level connection between fillers and relative clauses while keeping semantic similarity between fillers and embedded agents constant. We did this by employing the distinction between restrictive and non-restrictive relative clauses.

The defining difference between restrictive and non-restrictive relative clauses is their role in the establishment of the nominal head's referent in context. Whereas restrictive relative clauses are essential for narrowing the domain of reference denoted by the relative head, non-restrictive relatives (sometimes referred to as *parentheticals*) are used when the nominal referent can be established in context based on the denotation of the relative head alone, and convey other types of information. Given this difference, researchers tend to agree that restrictive and non-restrictive relative clauses are distinguished by their connectedness with the relative head at an information level. Accordingly, non-restrictive relatives are often described as being more

independent from the relative head as compared to restrictive ones, and as exhibiting the status of a separate segment or information unit (Ariel, 1999, Bache & Jakobsen, 1980; Depraetere, 1995; Mann & Thompson, 1988; for reviews see Ariel, 1999).

Example (8) demonstrates a restrictive use of a relative clause and (9) demonstrates a non-restrictive use of a similar relative clause. As opposed to the relative clause in (8), the one in (9) is not essential for establishing the referent of the relative head (*boy*), but merely provides additional information about it, which in that particular scenario would be interpreted as a justification for the speaker's choice for a dance partner.

(8) Contextual domain: a boy wearing tap shoes; a boy wearing disco pants; a boy wearing cowboy boots.

Q: Who would you choose as your dance partner?

A: (I would choose) *the boy* [that<sup>1</sup>\_ is wearing cowboy boots].

(9) Contextual domain: a girl wearing tap shoes; a dog wearing disco pants; a boy wearing cowboy boots

Q: Who would you choose as your dance partner?

A: (I would choose) the boy, [who \_ is wearing cowboy boots].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> An accepted prescriptive rule in American English is that restrictive relative clauses open with the complementizer *that*, whereas non-restrictive ones open with a wh-element (i.e. which/who/whose/whom). This guideline can be found in many writing and style guides, for example Beins (2012). Additionally, in written English, non-restrictive relatives are typically separated from the relative head by a comma, and in speech they are often preceded by a pause (Ariel, 1999; Garro & Parker, 1980; Givon, 1995).

The fact that restrictive relative clauses are essential for determining the referent of the relative head means that their contents play a crucial role in conveying messages. In fact, in contextual domains in which the denotation of the relative head can be mapped to more than one referent, uttering a simple singular noun phrase (the boy) is futile in terms of successful message delivery. Consider, for example, the conversation in (8), in which the contextual domain includes three boys. If a speaker wishes to identify the one person he would choose as a dance partner, an utterance like "the boy" would fail to deliver the message. To be successful, his answer must include further identifying information (possibly encoded as a relative clause). In contrast, in contexts like (9), producing a simple noun phrase (the boy) would provide enough details for referent identification, and successfully deliver the intended message. This contrast suggests that in comparable cases like the ones in (8)-(9), the relative head and the relative clause are more closely linked at the message-level in the restrictive case as compared to the non-restrictive case, since in the former both elements are essential for the message to be successfully conveyed, whereas in the latter this can be achieved without the production of a relative clause or another modifying element. As a result, in the restrictive case, production involves the creation of a filler-gap dependency between elements closely related at the message-level, whereas in the nonrestrictive case the message level connection between these elements is not as strong.

The potential effect of this difference in informational status between restrictives and non-restrictives on processing has been examined in several comprehension studies. To test the hypothesis that background information is processed more quickly earlier in the sentence, Gibson, Desmet, Grodner, Watson and Ko (2005) compared reading times of restrictive relative clauses, taken to convey background information (since reference identification demands the use of background information which is common to both interlocutors) and non-restrictive relatives,

modifying the main subject or object. The authors observed an interaction between restrictiveness and relative clause position, such that restrictive relatives were read faster in subject than in object position, whereas reading times for non-restrictives were higher overall and also unaffected by position. More recently, a line of studies by Dillon and colleagues (Dillon, Clifton, & Frazier, 2014; Dillon, Clifton, Sloggett, & Frazier, 2017) compared the processing of at-issue and not-at-issue information through a comparison of restrictive and nonrestrictive (termed *appositive*) relative clauses. In a series of three experiments, Dillon et al. (2014) compared the acceptability penalty associated with complex structures embedding additional material inside restrictive versus non-restrictive relatives as well as the penalty when a filler-gap dependency spanned restrictives versus non-restrictives. They observed an acceptability penalty only in the conditions involving restrictive relative clauses, and suggested this is related to not-at-issue content being a 'quasi-independent' speech act (Arnold, 2007; Frazier, Dillon, & Clifton, 2015; Syrett & Koev, 2015). When a single, integrated representation of the sentence is syntactically complex, the acceptability penalty is greater than when complexity is distributed across two distinct representations of the sentence. Further, Dillon et al. (2017) also investigated the degree to which restrictiveness of intervening material affects online processing of filler-gap dependencies. Extending Dillon et al. (2014), their first finding was that the presence of a filler-gap dependency interacted with the restrictiveness of the intervening material, such that the acceptability penalty of sentences with filler-gap dependencies vs. controls was greater when it spanned a restrictive relative. In the following two studies, eyetracking-while-reading was used to examine this effect during incremental processing. In both experiments the authors observed that the slowdown at the gap site and total viewing times for conditions containing a filler-gap dependency versus controls was greater with an intervening

restrictive as compared to an intervening non-restrictive. They proposed an analysis of this pattern viewing the syntactic content of restrictives as more available in memory than comparable non-restrictives after they have been processed, hence causing more interference for the processing of filler-gap dependencies which span them. According to the authors, this reflects the special discourse role of non-restrictives as independent speech acts, to which the processor may lose access.

In sum, by their nature, restrictive relative clauses are more connected to the relative head at the message-level than their non-restrictive equivalents. Further, evidence from comprehension indicates that this difference has consequences for processing: restrictives are processed slower when their position in the sentence is inconsistent with their informational status (Gibson et al., 2005) and non-restrictive intervening relatives cause less interference for linking processes spanning them than restrictive relatives, suggesting that the processor may lose access to them (Dillon et al., 2014, 2017).

## **Hypotheses**

Going back to our current interest, the contrast in the connection from the message level to the relative head between restrictives and non-restrictives can be used to disentangle the filler-retention moderation account from the agent-inhibition account for relative clause passivization. Each of these accounts makes a different prediction with regard to this factor.

In the introduction, we argued that maintenance of some representation of the filler until the generation of the gap position is necessary for tracking that the connection between the filler and the gap position is well-formed. This should be easier given a strong message-level connection between the filler and the relative clause, which allows easier access to the filler during the planning and production of the relative clause. The idea is that as the production system formulates the relative clause content, it should be easier to maintain a representation of the filler if it is part of the same information unit than if it is a part of a separate information unit. From the perspective of filler-retention then, the production of a restrictive relative clause is less hindering than that of non-restrictive ones. Accordingly, if speakers use passivization to moderate challenging filler retention by creating shorter dependencies, we should see more passivization in non-restrictive occurrences. Preliminary support for this prediction comes from corpus data from English reported in Wagers and Pendleton (2016). Looking at 3488 relative clauses preceded by adjunct phrases, the majority of them non-restrictive, all but one had a subject gap. This suggests a connection between non-restrictives and early dependency resolution.

In contrast, passivization due to agent-inhibition (Gennari et al., 2012) is related to increased interference from the still active conceptual representation of the filler (the relative head) competing with the activation of the embedded agent. A strong message-level connection between the filler and the relative clause should increase the activation of the former during the planning/production of the latter and hence cause more interference for successful retrieval of the embedded agent. To the extent it operates in the materials tested here at all, agent-inhibition is predicted to occur more often during the production of restrictive relative clauses, resulting in more omitted or 'demoted' agents – that is, more passives in restrictive relatives as compared to non-restrictive ones.

Note that an extension to production of Dillon et al.'s (2017) suggestion that non-restrictives are syntactically inaccessible to the processor is compatible with both hypotheses. Under filler retention-moderation, more passivization will occur with non-restrictives as their

inaccessibility will hinder filler retention within them, and under agent-inhibition we should observe less passivization with non-restrictives since this inaccessibility should decrease interference from the relative head.

Finally, if the nature of the head-clause message level connection does not have an effect on relative clause formation in production, or if both retention-moderation and agent-inhibition occur at the same rate, we do not expect to see a difference in passivization between restrictive and non-restrictive relatives.

Experiment 1 was conducted to examine these hypotheses. It used a written production elicitation task in which English speakers were required to answer referent identification questions by completing a preamble demanding the formation of a relative clause. Contexts were manipulated within items such that in the restrictive condition relative clauses were essential for referent identification and in the non-restrictive condition they were not. We chose the written modality for ease of data collection and analysis. Importantly, Studies 1a and 1b reported in Gennari et al. (2012) directly compared English passivization rates in writing and in speech. They observed that choices to passivize patterned the same (i.e., more passives under similarity-based interference) in both modalities, and this motivated their choice to conduct Studies 2, 3 and 5 (Study 4 was a meta-analysis) using the written modality alone (see also Scontras et al., 2017). Additionally, as detailed below, our instructions encouraged participants to type in their answers in a manner that emulates spontaneous speech and avoids introspection.

#### Method

**Participants.** Fifty-two adult native English speakers were recruited using Amazon Mechanical Turk and paid 7 USD each. Their ages ranged between 19 and 63 (M = 31.9).

Twenty reported some knowledge of Spanish (10), French (6), Mandarin (1), Korean (1), Farsi (1) or Hebrew (1). None had education concerning the subject matter of this study

Materials and Design. Thirty-two sets of experimental items were designed. Each item consisted of a few background sentences (the "context"), followed by a prompt preceding a textbox. Contexts specified a setting (e.g., a farm), four characters, and three events involving the characters in the setting. Subjects and objects of all events were human. In all cases, the question required choosing one character, based on the event in which s/he took part. Prompts were designed to encourage the formation of relative clauses, which the context manipulation (more details below) rendered restrictive or non-restrictive. Experimental items were constructed to elicit the production of a clause describing the patient of an event using an active object relative clause or a passive subject relative clause. All the events reported in our contexts were described by verbs with a direct object (i.e., noun phrase) complement. In addition, to control the elements repeated in the contexts, both restrictive and non-restrictive contexts included either verb or subject repetitions. More details about these manipulations are provided below. An example is provided in Table 1.

Table 1
Set Example, Experiment 1

	Restrictive		
	Repeated verb	Repeated subject	
Setting	A Banana plantation		
Characters	Farmer, Day-worker 1 (female), Day-worker 2 (female), Day-worker 3 (female).		

Events	The farmer praised day-worker 1.	The farmer praised day-worker 1.	
	Day worker 3 praised day-worker 2.	The farmer watched day-worker 2.	
	Day worker 2 praised day-worker 3.	The farmer heard day-worker 3.	
Question	Who is most likely to buy the boss a nice gift for Christmas?		
Prompt	The that		
	Non-restrictive		
	Repeated verb	Repeated subject	
Setting	A Banana plantation		
Characters	Farmer, Day-worker (female), Cowboy, Banker (male).		
Events	The farmer praised the day-worker.	The farmer praised the day-worker.	
	The cowboy praised the banker.	The farmer watched the cowboy.	
	The banker praised the cowboy.	The farmer heard the banker.	
Question	Who is most likely to buy the boss a nice gift for Christmas?		
Prompt	The, that, as mentioned,		
	Or (between subjects)		
	The, who		

In restrictive contexts, characters included an authority figure (e.g. *farmer*) and three subordinates. The subordinates were described by the same referential noun phrase and distinguished only by a notation (*day-worker 1*, *day-worker 2*, *day-worker 3*). Each of the three sentences in the "events" component featured one of these subordinates in object position. The questions asked to identify the character on the receiving end of an act of kindness. Answers

were typed into a prompt of the format "The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_". As these contexts included three characters described by the same referential noun phrase (e.g., day-worker), to successfully identify the correct referent, it was essential that subjects modify the noun typed at the first open position. The format of the rest of the prompt imposed that this modification be in the form of a relative clause. In this condition, then, the relative head and clause exhibited a strong message-level connection. Further, to control the type of repetitions within each context, the information distinguishing three possible referents of the relative head was either the event in which it participated ('repeated subject') or the agent of that event ('repeated verb'). Accordingly, in repeated subject contexts, the authority figure was the agent of three different eventualities. In repeated verb contexts, the same event took place with three different agents. The target eventualities (praise in this case) were described by one of 16 verbs, repeated once across contexts (embedded in a different setting with different characters). Non-target eventualities were described by a different set of 64 verbs.

In non-restrictive contexts, characters still included an authority figure (e.g. *farmer*), but only one subordinate (*day-worker*) and two other participants (*banker*, *cowb*oy). The eventualities featured these three characters as affected objects. Here as well, the task was to identify the participating party who was the receiver of an act of kindness. In this case, however, the referential noun phrase describing the target participant (*day-worker*) was sufficient to identify its referent in the context. Nevertheless, the prompt format required participants to provide a relative clause in their response. In these contexts, the production of a relative clause provides relevant information, namely a justification for choosing that particular participant as the correct answer; however, importantly, relative clauses were not essential for reference identification. In addition to having provided a non-restrictive context, we underscored non-

restrictiveness by separating the relativizer from the relative head with a comma. Furthermore, given that the dissociation between restrictive and non-restrictive relativizers (described in Footnote 1) is often ignored, we included a between-subjects manipulation whereby half of our participants saw 'who' in the relativizer position and the rest saw 'that, as mentioned'. In the latter, "as mentioned" marked the discourse role of the non-essential relative clause as repetition of given information. As we report below, this manipulation did not affect response patterns. Here too, each item had a repeated verb and a repeated subject version.

Materials were assigned to four lists in a Latin square design and the order of reported eventualities in each context was fully randomized for each participant. Settings, characters, verbs and questions used in each experimental item are given in appendix A.

Thirty-two distractor contexts were added to each list. In distractor contexts, questions elicited the production of subject relative clauses (*Who admires the boss?*), that cannot be passivized.

**Procedure.** The experiment was programmed using Ibex Farm (Drummond, 2013) and administered online. Participants read a brief description of the experiment and were instructed to type their answers as naturally as possible, as if they were chatting with a friend online, and to make sure that their answer mentions all the relevant details provided by the context. They were then presented with one restrictive and one non-restrictive practice item, each with sample correct and incorrect answers and explanations (see Appendix A). Unlike experimental contexts, which elicited the production of direct-object relative clauses, practice contexts elicited the production of indirect-object relative clauses. One incorrect answer included a relative clause describing irrelevant details and the other provided a wrong answer (i.e., the choice of a wrong

character). All sample answers included active relative clauses. After completing the practice session, subjects proceeded to the experimental items. They were allowed to complete the experiment at their own pace and take as many breaks as they wished. To answer the question, participants completed the prompt by typing their responses in text boxes.

## **Results**

Responses were considered correct if they described the target event. Incorrect responses were produced in 6.8% of the trials. Overall, active object relative clauses accounted for 51.8% of productions, and passive subject relative clauses accounted for 41.4%. Out of the passives produced, 99.3% (854/860) included a by-phrase. Examples for each type of answer are provided in (10) below. Figure 1 shows the distribution of production type by condition.

- (10) Examples for correct responses by response type (words provided by the prompt are underlined):
  - a. The day-worker {that; who, / that, as mentioned,} the farmer praised \_\_\_(Active)
  - b. The day-worker {that; who, / that, as mentioned,} \_\_was praised by the farmer (Passive)

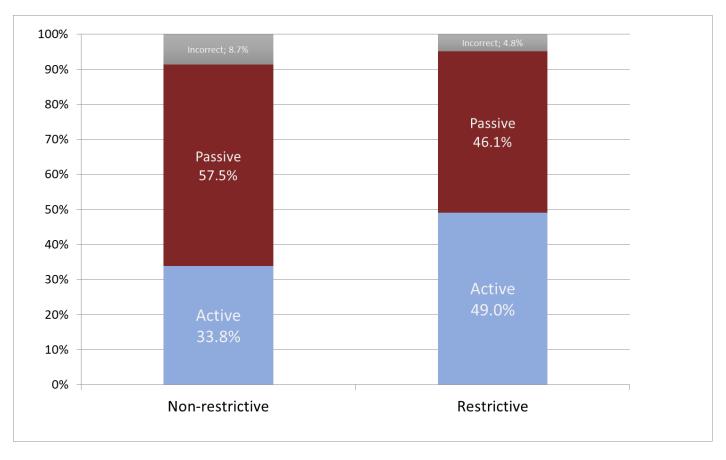


Figure. 1. Experiment 1, distribution of responses by restrictiveness.

We applied a binomial mixed-effects model for the dependent variable 'produced structure' (active/passive) with the fixed factors 'restrictiveness' and 'repeated element'. We started out by running a maximal model, with subject and item random intercepts and random slopes for the fixed factors. Due to failure to converge, we simplified the random effects structure of the model by removing random correlations and then eliminating the components which accounted for the least variance. The converging model included random slopes for subjects. This model yielded a significant effect of restrictiveness (Estimate = 1.87, SE = .37, z

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> It could seem worrying that the converged model did not include random effects for items. However, an earlier analysis, following a procedure that did not include correlation removal, only gradual elimination of components according to the level of variance for which they account, converged with all intercepts for subjects and items and a

= 5.04, p < .001), such that more passives were produced in non-restrictive contexts. Repeated element was not significant (p = .2).

We then applied a post-hoc model, comparing error rates between the restrictive and non-restrictive conditions, with the fixed factor 'restrictiveness' with corresponding random intercepts for both subjects and items. This yielded a significant effect of restrictiveness (Estimate = 1.4, SE = .53, z = 2.7, p = .007), such that more incorrect completions were produced in the non-restrictive condition.

Finally, as demonstrated in Figure 2, the format of the non-restrictive prompt (*who*, / *that, as mentioned*) did not affect the pattern of production rates.

25

random slope of restrictiveness for subjects, yielding results similar to those reported above – a significant effect of restrictiveness (Estimate = 1.85, SE = .37, z = 4.97, p < .001) and no repeated element effect (p = .2).

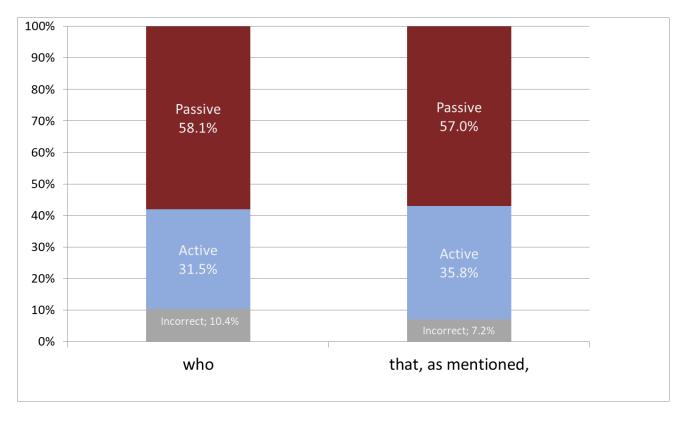


Figure 2. Experiment 1, passivization rate by non-restrictive prompt type.

#### Discussion

The results of Experiment 1 support our hypothesis that English speakers' choices to produce passive relative clauses are affected by the difficulty of maintaining the representation of the filler throughout the production of the relative clause. As predicted under the assumption that passivization can serve as a retention moderation technique, non-restrictive relative clauses yielded more passive dependencies than restrictive relatives. Further support for this hypothesis comes from the rate of incorrect completions, which was significantly higher for non-restrictive items. In contrast, the alternative hypothesis, which views agent-inhibition as the factor modulating passive choices, predicts the opposite performance pattern.

The observed performance pattern indicates that the formation of passive dependencies is modulated by the cognitive effort associated with the retention of the filler throughout the

dependency, hence supporting our hypothesis that English speakers can form passives as a way to moderate dependency formation demands by resolving them at an earlier point in production.

One prediction of our interpretation of the tendency to produce more passives in the non-restrictive condition as related to a moderation of filler retention demands is that when passivization is less available, speakers should experience difficulty in maintaining the filler. Experiment 2 was designed to test this hypothesis by contrasting the formation of restrictive and non-restrictive relative clauses in a language where passivization is less productive, namely Hebrew.

## **Experiment 2: Restrictiveness and Resumption in Hebrew**

In Hebrew, although passives are a part of the normative verbal system, they are not productive in spontaneous speech, and are rarely produced in spoken language as well as written formal text (Berman 1979, 2008; Bolozky, 1999, Dekel, 2014; Jisa, Reilly, Verhoeven, Baruch, & Rosado, 2002). For example, Dekel (2014) reports that in a spoken corpus of almost 7000 verbal forms, only 18 were passive. In a cross-linguistic comparison of passivization rate in written corpora, Jisa et al. (2002) found that the rate of passivization of Hebrew clauses produced by adults (6.6%) was significantly lower than their rate in Dutch (15.2%), English (11.48%) and French (13.2%) which did not differ significantly from one another. Passivization rate in Spanish (4.3%) was also significantly lower compared to English, Dutch and French but not when compared to Hebrew. Explanations for this variation were offered within functional pragmatic models (Berman, 1979; Jisa et al., 2002), which view passivization as a means of expressing a pragmatic function of "downgrading" the agent or "foregrounding" another noun phrase (Keenan, 1985; Myhill 1997). Accordingly, it was suggested that the availability of other

constructions suitable for these functions (such as impersonals in Hebrew and Spanish) decrease the "functional load" (Jisa et. al, 2002) attributed to passives and as a result their frequency. We return to these accounts in the General Discussion.

Given this, passivization is predicted to be less available as a technique for fillerretention moderation in Hebrew. In the case of the restrictive/non-restrictive distinction, this may
mean that Hebrew speakers who produce non-restrictive object relative clauses (RCs) would
create a dependency between the non-restrictive relative head and the embedded object position.

If the maintenance of non-restrictive relative heads is indeed more taxing than that of restrictive
ones, filler-retention during the creation of non-restrictive object dependencies is predicted to be
more difficult than that of restrictive ones. As a result, it is expected that Hebrew speakers would
demonstrate a stronger tendency to create these dependencies in a form associated with the
generation of a dependency with an inaccessible filler. One such strategy is the use of resumptive
pronouns (RPs) (Ariel, 1990, 1999) instead of gaps, as demonstrated in (11):

(11) ra'iti 'et ha-yeled še-ima divxa še-ha-yalda daxfa 'oto

I-saw ACC the-boy that-mom reported that-the-girl pushed **him**'I saw the boy that Mom reported the girl pushed.'

It has long been observed that when English speakers produce filler-gap dependencies which span syntactic configurations known as *islands*, rendering an ungrammatical utterance, they sometimes produce a pronoun in the embedded argument position instead of leaving a gap (Alexopoulou & Keller, 2007; F. Ferreira & Swets, 2005; McCloskey, 2017; Morgan & Wagers, 2018; Polinsky, Clemens, Morgan, Xiang, & Heestand, 2013; Ross, 1967; Sells, 1984, among

others). In English, this dependency formation technique is categorized as 'intrusive resumption' (McCloskey, 2006) – that is, not a part of the grammar. Accordingly, it is often viewed as related to the processing of these constructions (Alexopoulou & Keller, 2007; Asudeh, 2004; Dickey, 1996; Erteschik-Shir, 1992; Hawkins, 1999, 2003; Morgan & Wagers, 2018; among others). Consistent with the view that resumption in English is an intrusive mechanism, many acceptability judgment studies have replicated the finding that resumptives are rated as uniformly unacceptable across different constructions (Alexopoulou & Keller 2007; Dickey, 1996; Han et al., 2012; Heestand, Xiang, & Polinsky, 2011; Morgan & Wagers, 2018; Polinsky et al., 2013).

In contrast, Hebrew is a 'grammaticized resumption' language, in which resumption is a grammatical technique for creating dependencies in relative clauses, optional with direct object relative clauses and obligatory with indirect object ones (Borer, 1984; McCloskey, 2006; Meltzer-Asscher, Fadlon, Goldstein, & Holan, 2015; Sells, 1984; Shlonsky, 1992). This is supported by evidence from large scale acceptability experiments demonstrating that even in the absence of an island violation, the difference in naturalness ratings provided for gapped and resumptive direct-object relative clauses is very small, namely about half a point on a five point Likert scale (Farby, Danon, Walters, & Ben-Shachar, 2010) or a seven point Likert scale (Meltzer-Asscher et al., 2015).

A number of studies have proposed that resumption in English is related to processing in production, (Asudeh, 2004, 2011; F. Ferreira & Swets, 2005; Kroch, 1981; Morgan & Wagers, 2018; Polinsky et al., 2013). These authors all share the view that intrusive resumption occurs when the production system cannot complete an already initiated filler-gap dependency. Following Kroch (1981), F. Ferreira and Swets (2005) and Polinsky et al. (2013) suggest that resumptives in English are used as a last resort in production, when speakers realize that a gap is

not possible at the end of a dependency they have already started uttering (e.g., when the dependency terminates inside a syntactic island). Asudeh (2004, 2011) distinguishes between locally well-formed and globally well-formed constructions. Resumption in English is accordingly analyzed as a case where the system produces a globally ill-formed construction (a dependency across a syntactic island) and thus opts for local well-formedness by producing a pronoun where a gap would be illicit. Finally, Morgan and Wagers (2018) also propose that RPs are symptomatic of a breakdown in the production of a filler-gap dependency, where at some point prior to its completion, speakers assess the acceptability of the planned structure. In cases where the system decides against the completion of the dependency, for example, when it would result in a highly unacceptable utterance, production continues, but the dependency is abandoned. This results in the realization of an anaphoric pronoun in the embedded argument position in order to satisfy local subcategorization constraints.

If speakers of intrusive resumption languages, such as English, use resumptives to continue production in cases of a breakdown in the formation of filler-gap dependencies, a plausible a-priori assumption is that speakers of grammaticized resumption languages would also find that resumption is useful when dependency encoding is challenged. In other words, if in intrusive resumption languages, in which resumption is not a grammatical strategy for creating dependencies, speakers use it to satisfy local argument structure demands when they find themselves producing ill-formed dependencies, it is possible that the rate of its occurrence in grammatical resumption languages is also related to impeded dependency formation. Moreover, that resumption is grammatical in these languages should render its implementation as a production strategy even less restricted. In other words, in grammatical resumption languages, we might see that speakers show an increased tendency to use resumption while producing

grammatically licit, yet cognitively challenging, filler-gap dependencies. This is expected to occur, among other cases, when working memory resources - essential for verifying that the grammatical encoding of the connection between the filler and the gap is well-formed - are taxed. In such cases, the choice to encode the embedded argument as a resumptive would be a strategy to ensure that local argument structure demands are satisfied, which, unlike in intrusive resumption languages, does not involve global ill-formedness or dependency abandonment.

This view predicts that the rate of grammaticized resumption would be modulated by filler maintenance demands such that more resumptives would be produced upon the creation of a dependency for which filler maintenance is impeded. In the context of the current study, it predicts that Hebrew speakers would produce more RPs in non-restrictive relative clauses as compared to restrictive ones. This prediction is in accordance with Ariel's (1999) model of resumption. Based on the results of a small scale corpus study on conversational Hebrew, Ariel proposes the Accessibility Theory, stating that a relatively high degree of "mental accessibility" of the filler when the embedded argument position is reached favors gaps, whereas a relatively low degree of mental accessibility encourages the use of resumptives. Accessibility is impacted by a combination of factors, such as the length of the dependency, the length of the filler, and whether or not the relative clause is restrictive (see also Ariel, 1990). Of specific interest to the current study is Ariel's (1999) finding that in her corpus, non-restrictiveness raised the proportion of resumption such that no RPs were observed in restrictive relatives (0/42) whereas about a third of the non-restrictive relatives (12/35) included an RP. An additional aim of Experiment 2 is hence to examine if this finding can be conceptually replicated using experimental methodology and under a more rigorous statistical analysis procedure.

Given the above, under filler-retention moderation, it is predicted that Hebrew speakers would produce more resumptives when required to create non-restrictive relative clauses as compared to their corresponding restrictive relatives. Note that it is also theoretically possible that Hebrew speakers make structural choices similar to the ones we observed in Experiment 1 and minimize filler maintenance demands by creating more passive dependencies on non-restrictive relatives, despite the general dispreference for passive in this language.

In contrast, under agent-inhibition, it is predicted that in Hebrew as well, a structure reflecting omission or demotion of the agent would be preferred in the restrictive case. For example, the creation of more passives in this condition. Importantly, note that agent-inhibition does not predict differences in resumption rates, namely, choices related to the realization of the object position, where the patient/theme argument corresponding to the filler is interpreted.

#### Method

**Participants.** Fifty-four adult native Hebrew speakers from the Tel Aviv University community were recruited via Facebook. They participated for partial course credit or a 25 NIS (~7 USD) participation remuneration. Their ages ranged between 20 and 47 (M = 28.2). Thirty-five reported good knowledge of English and 15 reported some knowledge of Russian (6), Spanish (5), German (4) or Palestinian Arabic (1). None had education concerning the subject matter of this study.

**Materials and design.** Like Experiment 1, Experiment 2 consisted of 32 experimental contexts, each followed by a direct-object eliciting prompt. The materials were modeled on the

English materials of Experiment 1, with some modifications as explained directly below. All other details were identical to the ones reported in Experiment 1.

Since experimental items were designed to elicit the production of direct-object relative clauses, many translation equivalents of target verbs used in Experiment 1 had to be replaced because of differences in the types of complements these verbs take in the two languages. Specifically, many of the verbs in Experiment 1 require a prepositional object in Hebrew, not a direct object (this is particularly problematic because resumption is obligatory for prepositional object positions in Hebrew.) Further, we used many psychological (experiencer) verbs for target events in Experiment 1 (e.g. embarrassed, comforted, encouraged), but these had to be avoided as they have been claimed to be illicit with gap complements in Hebrew (Landau, 2009). In addition, many of the Hebrew verbs with a direct object complement denote close or physical contact. For example, whereas the Hebrew equivalents of push, kiss, bite and sniff (nišek, daxaf, našax, rixre 'ax, respectively) are followed by a noun phrase complement, just as their English counterparts, the Hebrew equivalents of verbs denoting more abstract eventualities like acknowledge, applaud and recommend (hikir, heri'a and himlic) must be followed by a preposition (be- 'in', le- 'to' and al-'on', respectively). Given this, all of the target events used in Experiment 2 denoted the occurrence of a close or physical contact between two humans.

To naturally elicit the description of this type of events, contexts were constructed to create the impression that the experiment concerned participants' ability to identify inappropriate behavior between an authority figure and a subordinate. Characters included an authority figure (e.g. *a professor*), at least one subordinate of the opposite sex (*student A*) and two additional subordinates (e.g., *student B*, *student C* in restrictive conditions) or two characters who are relatives of the authority figure or have a non-professional relationship with him/her (e.g., *the* 

professor's son, the professor's daughter in non-restrictive conditions). In experimental items, one of the three events reported an inappropriate act performed by the authority figure on their subordinate (the professor patted the student/student A). This was followed by one of four possible questions, all requiring subjects to identify which character was subjected to an inappropriate act performed by their superior (e.g. Which of the characters should report the incident to the conduct committee?). Once again, target events were described by one of 16 verbs, repeated once across contexts, and non-target events were described by a different set of 64 verbs. Finally, just like in Experiment 1, each experimental set included 4 conditions, which were the result of crossing 'restrictiveness' with 'repeated element' (see Table 2). The restrictive prompt was the translation equivalent of the one used in Experiment 1, i.e. ha-\_\_\_\_\_ še-\_\_\_\_\_ ('the \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_'). As the that/which distinction does not exist in Hebrew, non-restrictive prompts were the translation equivalents of the "that, as mentioned" prompt. i.e. ha\_\_\_\_\_, še-ka'amur, \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Table 2
Set Example, Experiment 2 (translated from Hebrew)

	Restrictive	
	repeated verb	repeated subject
Setting	A university	
Characters	Professor (male), Student A (female), student B (female), student C (female).	
Events	The professor patted student A.	The professor patted student A.
	Student B patted student C.	The professor preferred student B.

	Student C patted student B.	The professor bypassed student C.	
Question	Which of the characters should report the incident to the conduct committee?		
Prompt	The that		
	Non-restrictive		
	repeated verb	repeated subject	
Setting	A university		
Characters	Professor (male), Student (female), the professor's son, the professor's daughter.		
Events	The professor patted the student.	The professor patted the student.	
	The professor's son patted the	The professor preferred his son.	
	professor's daughter.	The professor bypassed his daughter.	
	The professor's daughter patted the		
	professor's son.		
Question	Which of the characters should report the incident to the conduct committee?		
Prompt	The, that, as mentioned,		

Each list also included 32 distractor items. In distractor contexts, eventualities were reversed such that the authority figure was the affected participant (*the student patted the professor*) and questions elicited the production of subject relative clauses (*who behaved inappropriately?*), which do not allow resumption in Hebrew. For practice items, settings, characters, verbs and questions used in each experimental item see appendix B.

**Procedure.** The procedure was identical to that of Experiment 1. Practice contexts elicited the production of indirect-object relative clauses, which do not allow optionality in gap manifestation, hence assuring that example answers would not imply a preference with regard to optional resumption. Instructions were also identical those provided in Experiment 1. Note that in this case, the requirement to mention all the relevant details provided by the context prevents participants from encoding the relative clause as an agentless impersonal.

## **Results**

We considered all responses describing the relevant participant and target event as correct. 4.8% of the responses were incorrect. All correct responses included direct object relative clauses or their passivized counterparts. We observed three types of relative clauses: active with a gap (active-gap) in 32.8% of productions; active with an RP (active-RP) in 39.4% of productions, and passives in 22.5% of productions. Examples (12a-c) demonstrate these production types. Figure 3 presents the distribution of different response types by restrictiveness.

(12) Examples for correct responses by response type (words provided by the prompt are underlined):

a. <u>ha</u>-studentit <u>še-ha</u>-profesor litef Active-gap

the-student.female that-the-professor patted

'The student that the professor patted'

b. <u>ha-</u>studentit <u>še-ha</u>-profesor litef 'ota Active-RP

the-student.female that-the-professor patted her

'The student that the professor patted her'

c. <u>ha-</u>studentit še-lutfa (al-yedy ha-profesor) Passive-gap the-student.female that-patted.passive (by the-professor)

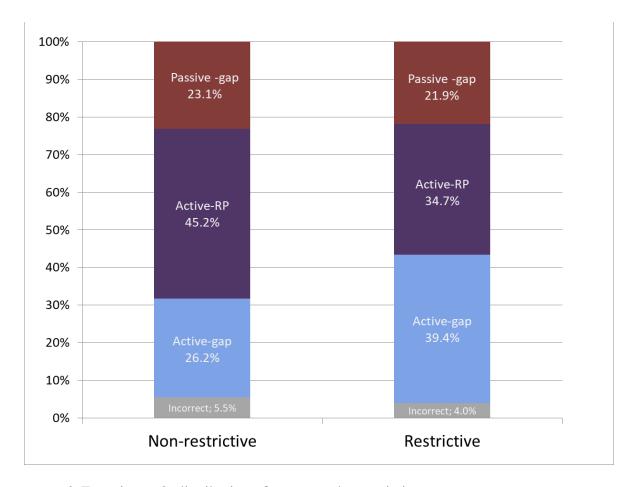


Figure 3. Experiment 2, distribution of responses by restrictiveness.

We applied binomial mixed-effects models for the two most frequently observed levels of the dependent variable 'produced structure' (active-gap and active-RP), with the fixed factors 'restrictiveness' and 'repeated element'. We started out by running a maximal model, which included subject and item random intercepts and random slopes for the fixed factors and their

<sup>&#</sup>x27;The student that was patted (by the professor)'

interaction. Due to failure to converge, we first removed the correlation between random effects and then simplified the random effects structure of the model, eliminating the components which accounted for the least variance. The converging model included random intercepts and random slopes of 'restrictiveness' for both participants and items, and random slope of 'repeated element' for subjects. This model yielded a significant effect of restrictiveness (Estimate = 1.8, SE = .5, z = 3.7, p < .001), such that more RPs were produced in non-restrictive contexts (see Figure 3). Repeated element was not significant (p = .2).

We further applied two post-hoc models, comparing error and passivization rates between the restrictive and non-restrictive conditions, with the fixed factor 'restrictiveness' with corresponding random intercepts for both subjects and items. These analyses failed to find significant effects of restrictiveness on passivization (Estimate = 1.01, SE = .65, z = 1.54, p = .13) or error rate (Estimate = .004, SE = .44, z = .009, p = .99).

## **Discussion**

We conducted Experiment 2 to test the prediction of the retention moderation account of filler-gap dependency production, namely that Hebrew speakers would produce more RPs in the embedded object position when creating more challenging, non-restrictive relative clauses. The results confirm this prediction: resumption rates were significantly higher in the non-restrictive condition as compared to the restrictive one. In addition, resumption was the preferred dependency creation choice with non-restrictive relatives. This performance pattern cannot be viewed as a reflection of agent-inhibition as these choices did not vary the inclusion or the position of the agent. In the General Discussion we provide an account for the observed pattern in terms of the production mechanism responsible for filler-gap dependency formation.

It is interesting to note the unexpectedly high passivization rates (~20% across conditions) observed in Experiment 2. Although this represents a much lower rate than the one observed with English speakers in Experiment 1 (averaging at 41.4%), considering the consensus in the literature regarding the scarcity of passivization in spoken Hebrew (which is in line with the intuitions of the two native Hebrew speaking authors), this result is rather surprising. One possible explanation for this finding is that it is an artifact of the task used in this study, which demanded participants to type their answers as opposed to producing speech. As Dekel (2014) notes, Hebrew passives are more likely to be used in written language. However, our participants were instructed to type their answer as if they were chatting with a friend. This instruction was included to obtain responses through a process as similar as possible to speech production and was indeed found to be sensitive to filler retention demands. An alternative explanation for the higher than expected passivization rate views it as an artifact of another property of the experimental design. Recall that in Experiment 2, the subject matter of the contexts was an inappropriate act between an authority figure and a subordinate. The tendency of speakers to report sexual misconduct using the passive voice, typically viewed as a way of focusing on the victim, is well-studied with regard to English (Bohner, 2001; Frazer & Miller, 2009; Henley, Miller, & Beazley, 1995; Nagar, 2016; Wood & Rennie, 1994). While to our knowledge there are no equivalent studies examining this phenomenon in Hebrew, we can anecdotally report that the use of the passive voice is prevalent in Hebrew media reports about sexual misconduct. We offer that some combination of these two potential explanations may account for the high rates of passivization in Experiment 2.

Together, the findings of Experiment 1 and Experiment 2 converge to support our suggestion that choices during the production of relative clauses are modulated by filler-retention

demands. The requirement to create non-restrictive relative clauses, in which relative heads and relative clauses are less connected at the message-level, and are thus challenging in terms of filler-retention, increased passivization rates in English and resumption rates in Hebrew. Hence, the view that both dependency creation techniques as related to filler-retention demands provides a natural account for these performance patterns.

## **Experiment 3: Similarity-Based Interference and Resumption in Hebrew**

Our suggestion that Hebrew speakers use more resumption upon creating challenging dependencies, which English speakers moderate by earlier dependency resolution via passivization would receive further support if we also observe this tendency when filler retention is challenged by factors other than restrictiveness. Experiment 3 was conducted to seek converging evidence in support of this suggestion. More specifically, we used Gennari et al.'s (2012) materials and a similar relative clause elicitation paradigm to examine the structural choices Hebrew speakers make when similarity-based interference between the filler and the embedded subject is manipulated.

As reviewed above, English speakers were observed to produce more passive object relative clauses when the relative head and the embedded agent shared animacy specification (*The man* [who\_ was punched by the woman]) as compared to cases where the filler was inanimate (*The bag* [that\_ was punched by the woman]). We suggested that this performance pattern can be viewed as reflecting a tendency towards earlier dependency resolution, implemented to moderate filler retention requirements, as opposed to a reflection of inhibition on the embedded agent. If we find that Hebrew speakers produce more RPs instead of gaps in object position in these cases, our hypothesis that this property imposes a challenge for filler retention

would be further supported. Interestingly, corpus data from Irish, a grammatical resumption language which does not allow passivization of the English type (McCloskey, 2017), provide initial support for this prediction. In his Irish corpus, McCloskey found that 55 out of the 60 object relatives with resumptive pronouns included an animate relative head, suggesting that this tendency reflects the occurrence of processing difficulty due to similarity-based competition, in combination with unavailability of passivization.

In contrast, if structural choices in these cases are solely determined by agent inhibition, we do not expect to observe differences in the realization of the object position, where the patient/theme argument corresponding to the filler is interpreted.

In Experiment 3, we directly examine these hypotheses, using a slightly modified version of the experiments reported in Gennari et al (2012).

## Method

**Participants.** Forty-nine adult native Hebrew speakers from the Tel Aviv University community participated for partial course credit or a 25 NIS (~7 USD) participation remuneration. Their ages ranged between 20 and 30 (M = 24.3). Forty-five reported good knowledge of English. Twenty-five reported some knowledge of Spanish (11), Standard Arabic (5), French (4), Palestinian Arabic (4), Russian (4), Portuguese (1) or Farsi (1). None had education concerning the subject matter of this study.

**Materials and design**. Materials consisted of the 60 depicted scenes used in Gennari et al.'s (2012) Experiment 1. The 20 experimental pictures depicted the same transitive eventuality taking place once between an agent and an animate patient and once between an agent and an

inanimate theme. Each experimental picture was presented in both the agent-patient and the agent-theme conditions (manipulated between participants). Participants had to produce direct-object relative clauses describing either the animate patient or the inanimate theme. Conditions were distinguished by the relative clause eliciting question participants had to answer, which required the description of either the animate patient or the inanimate theme.

Unlike Gennari et al (2012), our design implemented additional limitations on the set of possible answers. First, to impose the formation of a direct-object relative clause as the answer, subjects were instructed to construct their answer using a given verb on each trial. Verbs were chosen such that they correctly described the target eventuality and selected an NP (rather than a PP) object in Hebrew. In addition, to answer the question, participants completed a fill-in-the-blank format that imposed the formation of a relative clause. Accordingly, each trial consisted of a verb, a picture and a fill-in-the-blank format, that were presented together. Table 3 demonstrates the implementation of this manipulation across the two conditions. For the full set of experimental items see Appendix C.

Ta	ble	3	

Set Example, Experiment 3

הרטיב/ה

hirtiv/a

made-wet. M/F



Figure 4. Experiment 3, picture used with the verb hirtiv 'made-wet'.

Animate patient	Inanimate patient
mi loveš bgadim kxulim?	ma adom ba-tmuna?
who wearing cloths blue?	What red in-the-picture?
'Who is wearing blue clothes?'	'What is red in the picture?'
ha še	ha še
'The' that'	'The'

Forty distractors presented questions eliciting the formation of subject relative clauses (31), indirect-object relatives (6) and direct-object relatives (3). Each of the 60 pictures was paired with a different verb. Experimental items were distributed into two experimental lists using a Latin square. Each subject thus completed 60 trials - 10 from each condition and 40 distractor items - presented in a fully randomized order.

**Procedure.** The experiment was programmed using Ibex Farm and administered online. Participants read a brief description of the experiment and were instructed to type their answers as naturally as possible, as if they were chatting with a friend online. They then saw two practice items, each with sample correct and incorrect answers and explanations. Practice contexts, given

in Appendix C, elicited the production of a subject relative clause, where resumption cannot be used, and an indirect-object relative clause, where resumption is obligatory. One example of an incorrect answer included the use of a verb different from the one given in the task and the other provided a wrong description (i.e., the choice of a wrong character). After completing the practice session, subjects proceeded to the experimental items. They were allowed to complete the experiment at their own pace and take as many breaks as they wished.

## **Results**

We considered all responses identifying the correct participant using the given verb as correct. Incorrect responses comprised 13.8% of the data. In this category, we counted either ill-formed sentences or subject relative clauses (created by disregarding the instruction to use the given verb). All correct responses included direct object relative clauses or their passivized counterparts. As demonstrated in example (14) below, we observed three main types of correct relative clauses: Active-gap, Active-RP and Passive. In addition, 13.2% of correct productions were verb initial active RCs (with and without RPs – 14(d-e)), a possible but non-canonical order in Hebrew. As shown and explained below, the proportion of V-initial relatives did not vary between conditions.

(14) Examples for correct responses by response type (parts provided by the format are underlined):

a. <u>ha</u>-matara <u>še</u>-ha-yeled be-yarok martiv Active-gap
the-target that-the-boy in-green wets.TRANS

'The target that the boy in green is getting wet'

b. <u>ha</u> -matara	<u>še</u> -ha-yeled	be-yarok	martiv	ota	Active-RP
the-target	that-the-boy	in-green	wets.TRANS	her	
c. <u>ha</u> -matara	<u>še</u> -murtevet	(al yedey)	ha-yeled be-yo	arok	Passive-gap
the-target	that-is-wetted.PASS	by	the-boy in-gre	en	

<sup>&#</sup>x27;The target that is being wet by the boy in green'

d.	<u>ha</u> -matara	<u>še</u> -martiv	ha-yeled	be-yarok Active-Vinitial-gap
	the-target	that-wets.TRANS	the-boy	in-green
e.	<u>ha</u> -matara	<u>še</u> -martiv	ota ha-yeled	be-yarok Active-Vinitial-RP
	the-target	that-wets.TRANS	her the-boy	in-green

Finally, a small percentage of correct productions (1.6%) were categorized as impersonals (i.e., they had no subject). As this small number suggests that the production of impersonals was not a preferred method in our experiment, these were coded as Active-gap or Active-RP, according to the manifestation of the object. Of these impersonals, 87.5% appeared with a RP. Figure 5 shows the distribution of produced structures by condition.

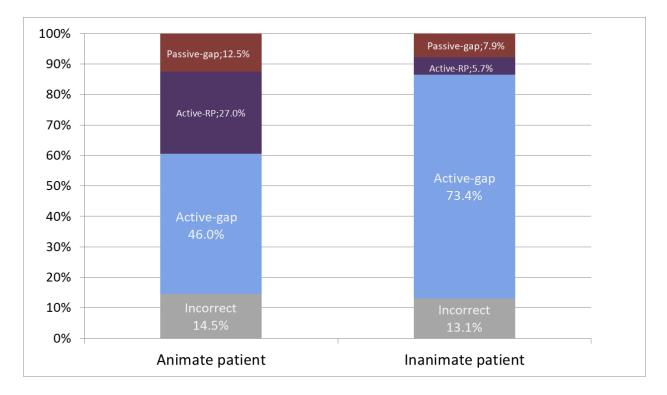


Figure 5. Experiment 3, distribution of relative clause type by condition.

We applied a binomial mixed-effects model with the fixed factor patient animacy (animate/inanimate) on the two most frequently produced levels of the dependent factor produced structure – Active-gap and Active-RP, with subject and item random intercepts and random slopes of patient animacy. Due to failure to converge, we simplified the random effects structure of the model, by removing the correlation between random effects. This yielded a significant effect of condition (Estimate = 5.9, SE = 1.5, z = 3.89, p < .001), such that more RPs were produced in the animate patient condition. A similar model, applied on the same data set after excluding all verb-initial relatives, converged in its maximal version and yielded the same performance pattern – significantly higher resumption rates in the animate patient condition (Estimate = 5.9, SE = 2.1, z = 2.8, p = .005).

Further, as verb initial structures constitute a subset of the constructions we compare in the first analysis and since they exhibit shorter dependencies, which may be related to our experimental manipulation, we applied a follow-up model comparing their rates in each condition. We started out with the maximal model, with random intercepts and random slopes on both subjects and items. The converging model did not include random intercepts or correlations between random effects and did include random slopes on subjects and items. It failed to find a significant effect of our experimental manipulation on the rate of v-initial RCs (Estimate = 1.13, SE = 7, z = 1.6, p = .09).

## **Discussion**

Experiment 3 tested whether animacy-based similarity between the relative head and the embedded agent would result in increased resumption in the direct object position in Hebrew relative clauses. We predicted that if similarity-based interference hinders filler retention, speakers of Hebrew should produce more resumptives in the object position of a dependency maintained throughout the production of a semantically similar lexical item. This prediction was borne out. The rate of direct object resumption was significantly higher when both the filler and the embedded agent were animate. This performance pattern provides additional support for our suggestion that similarity-based interference hinders filler maintenance. In contrast, since this variation does not entail a distinction the inclusion of the agent or its position, the observed performance pattern cannot be explained as reflecting agent-inhibition.

Finally, although we observed an unexpectedly high rate of verb-initial relatives in this experiment, this tendency was not modulated by animacy-based similarity. We view it as an

artifact of our experimental task, which demanded that participants use a given and prominently presented verb in their answers.

#### **General Discussion**

This study examined how filler-retention demands affect production choices in the formation of filler-gap dependencies in three experiments. In Experiment 1, more passive relative clauses were produced in non-restrictive compared to restrictive relative clauses, suggesting that English speakers use passivization to moderate filler-retention demands by creating shorter dependencies. In Experiment 2, in accordance with filler retention-moderation, Hebrew speakers used more resumptive pronouns in non-restrictive compared to restrictive relatives, supporting the association of non-restrictiveness with challenging filler-retention. In Experiment 3, Hebrew speakers produced more resumptive pronouns in the object position of active animate-animate relative clauses as compared to animate-inanimate ones, a pattern consistent with hindered filler-retention and that agent inhibition cannot explain.

## Early Dependency Resolution as a Retention Moderation Mechanism

As noted in the introduction, there is an extensive body of research focusing on the idea of a locality cost – that shorter dependencies may be easier to process than longer ones. In comprehension, this means that (active) relative clauses with a gapped subject position are more easily processed than relative clauses with gapped object position across populations (Caramazza & Zurif, 1976; Caplan, Alpert, & Waters, 1998; Just, Carpenter, & Keller, 1996; King & Just, 1991; MacWhinney, 1982; Mak, Vonk, & Schriefers, 2002; Traxler, Morris, & Seely, 2002; Wanner & Maratsos, 1978, among others). Many researchers have attempted to explain this

phenomenon in terms of the distance between the relative head and the embedded position in which it is interpreted (Gibson, 1998; Grodner & Gibson, 2005; Hawkins, 1999, 2003, among others). Accordingly, these views attribute the processing difficulty incurred during the parsing of object relatives to an increased difficulty in integrating the filler and the embedded predicate when more lexical material intervenes. In production, it has been noted that the ordering of constituents is partially determined by their complexity and length (Wasow, 1997). Specifically, in English, heavier NPs tend to be uttered later than lighter ones when there is optionality (Arnold, Losongco, Wasow, & Ginstrom, 2000; Kimball, 1973; Ross, 1967; Stallings & MacDonald, 2011; among others). This phenomenon, known as heavy NP shift, has also been attributed to a tendency to minimize the distance between two dependent elements (Diessel, 2005; Hawkins, 1994, 2003; Temperley, 2007). According to an analysis by Hawkins (1994, 2003), this is done to minimize the length of the dependency between the verb and its complements by placing the shorter one closer to the verbal head. Further, extensive corpus studies quantitatively assessing the tendency of languages to minimize dependency length (Temperley, 2007; Gildea & Temperley, 2009; and more recently Futrell et al., 2015 in a large scale study of 37 languages) have demonstrated that dependency lengths are significantly shorter than expected based on random distributions.

Most of these works (Hawkins, 1994, 2003; Temperley, 2007, Diessel, 2005) attribute the tendency towards shorter dependencies to an effort to achieve communicative efficiency by improving the comprehensibility of the produced utterance. Nevertheless, as noted by Temperley (2007), another possible explanation for this tendency are speaker-oriented processing pressures. This possibility is also considered in Gibson (1998), who suggests that a memory account viewing the processing cost of longer dependencies as incurred by the need to "keep a category"

in mind" (p. 52) throughout the processing of other elements extends to a possible account in terms of production complexity. According to this type of account, it is costlier for the speaker to maintain an element in working memory across the production of additional interfering elements. Hence, shorter dependencies, which involve fewer interfering elements between dependent lexical items, would be less challenging to produce.

Our suggestion that dependency production must involve a retention of some information related to the filler until it is completed is similar in its logic to Gibson's (1998) note cited above. We view the higher passivization rates observed with non-restrictive relatives in Experiment 1 and the association between passivization-encouraging environments in English and resumption-encouraging environments in Hebrew, established in Experiments 2 and 3, as demonstrating that English speakers do tend to produce shorter dependencies when filler retention is challenging. This, we propose, indicates that structural choices during the production of filler-gap dependencies are modulated by the requirement to retain information about the filler until the dependency is completed. In some cases, this requirement would lead to the production of shorter dependencies, and in others, increase the tendency to avoid unpronounced gaps by using resumptive pronouns (see relevant discussion below). Our findings hence extend existing evidence (Scontras et al., 2014, 2017) for Gibson's (1998) suggestion that filler-gap dependencies are more costly to produce with more intervening material by demonstrating the challenges posed for dependency production under retention hindering circumstances. Accordingly, it provides additional support for memory-based accounts (Gibson, 1998, 2000; Grodner & Gibson, 2005; Wanner & Maratsos, 1978), which attribute difficulties associated with the processing of non-local dependencies to challenges of filler maintenance.

Finally, what about preferences to passivize in languages with head-final relative clauses (e.g., Mandarin, Japanese, and Korean)? Given the evidence that final relative heads are planned prior to or with the relative clause (Hsiao & MacDonald, 2016; Montag et al. 2017) it may seem that filler-gap distance should not play a role in moderating retention load in these cases, since the filler is planned before the gap but uttered after it. Nevertheless, note that in these languages as well, the production of a passive results in earlier positioning of the gapped argument. Since the argument-predicate relationship between the planned filler and the embedded predicate is established once the gap is positioned, under the assumption that filler retention is meant for keeping track of the well-formedness of the dependency during production, it is possible that structural encoding from that point on is less demanding in terms of filler-retention. This means that passivization during the production of head-final relative clauses may also be related to challenges for filler maintenance. Concrete conclusions about this relationship demand further research.

## Filler Inaccessibility and Increased Rates of Grammatical Resumption

In Experiments 2 and 3, we observed that Hebrew speakers tend to use more resumptive pronouns when filler retention is hypothetically hindered. As noted, this observation is predicted by Ariel's (1999) Accessibility Model of resumption, maintaining that a relatively low degree of mental accessibility of the filler at the gap site encourages the use of resumptives. As mentioned above, this increased tendency to use resumptives in the embedded argument position when filler accessibility in hindered can be accounted for in terms of the mechanisms involved in the production of filler-gap dependencies.

In the introduction we discussed the properties of filler-gap dependency constructions and noted that they include a predicate-argument relationship between the filler and a potentially far-away embedded verb. We further argued that, in order to account for the use of gaps in relative clauses, the language production system must be equipped with a mechanism allowing the occurrence of unpronounced - yet implied - arguments when they are embedded under a filler, and forbidding unpronounced arguments in other cases. We then argued that retention of information about the filler is necessary for verifying that the grammatical encoding of the connection between the filler and the gap position is well-formed. From this, our observation of an increased tendency to use resumption when retention is hindered follows naturally. If the retention of information about the filler is the processing component allowing the generation of an empty argument position, it is not surprising that under circumstances which hinder filler retention speakers would show preference for articulating phonological material in that position. In other words, we propose that since hindered filler retention impeded Hebrew speakers' ability to keep track of the well-formedness of the dependency, they cautiously opted for the safer alternative, which, in addition to satisfying local argument structure demands, is also a grammatical technique for creating filler-gap dependencies in their language.

This view is consistent with existing production accounts for intrusive resumption in syntactic islands, namely, that choices to use a resumptive are related to satisfaction of local subcategorization constraints (Morgan & Wagers, 2018) or local well-formedness (Asudeh, 2004, 2011). Only, with grammaticized resumption in non-island environments, this decision is not accompanied by global ill-formedness or abandonment of the dependency. Accordingly, contexts in which speakers of languages with grammaticized resumption use it as a technique for ensuring satisfaction of argument structure constraints should be less restricted. A comparison of

structural choices in Experiment 1 (English) and Experiment 2 (Hebrew) and of Gennari et al.'s (2012) results (English) and our Experiment 3 (Hebrew) fully support this: in both pairs of experiments the most frequent production choice in Hebrew was resumption, whereas English speakers did not use resumption at all.

Recall that although passivization is rarely used in Hebrew (Berman 1979, 2008; Bolozky, 1999, Dekel, 2014; Jisa et al., 2002) it is still grammatical. In addition, as reflected in the results of Experiments 2 and 3, speakers do not completely refrain from using it. This raises the following question: if Hebrew speakers have a choice to avoid a challenging dependency by producing a shorter one, why would they not choose this option, and instead continue its production under retention impeding circumstances? Our answer to this question is, in some respects, similar to Berman (1979) and Jisa et al.'s (2002) accounts for the relative infrequency of Hebrew passives, namely that it is related to the availability of other constructions. Adopting a functional pragmatics perspective, these works attribute the scarcity of passivization to the availability of other constructions with which agent downgrading or another noun's foregrounding can be achieved, hence decreasing the functional load on passives.

We propose to view this from a processing perspective, focusing on cognitive pressures during dependency production. Given the way in which these two structures are linearized, it seems that a decision to passivize demands more advance planning than the production of a resumptive in object position. As a result, it is possible that speakers of languages with grammaticized resumption would show a decreased tendency towards the more cognitively demanding option, simply because their grammar allows a less demanding way for tracking the dependency's well-formedness. Namely, their grammar allows satisfaction of local argument structure demands through grammatical resumption, which, as opposed to intrusive resumption,

is not the result of a breakdown in dependency production. Future research could examine this suggestion by assessing the planning demands of passive relative clauses and relative clauses with a resumptive pronoun in object position.

Finally, another possible avenue for future research is the use of non-passive agent-downgrading constructions (e.g., impersonals) by Hebrew speakers in situations where English speakers would use passives (as predicted by Berman, 1979; Jisa et al., 2002). Although the current study did not find evidence in support of this suggestion, it is possible that this strategy would be detected under a different experimental design.

#### Conclusion

The results of Experiments 1-3 converge to indicate that production choices in the formation of filler-gap dependencies are modulated by filler-retention demands. The results from English indicate that challenging filler-retention can induce a preference for dependencies that resolve earlier, namely passive relative clauses. The results from Hebrew indicate that when this option for filler-retention moderation is less available, speakers of a language with optional resumption will realize the filler in the embedded position as a resumptive pronoun more often than leaving it unpronounced. These performance patterns are consistent with the view that some form of filler-retention must be an obligatory part of dependency formation in production and that speakers employ cognitive strategies to manage the memory burdens this imposes.

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Appendix A: Practice items, settings, characters, verbs and questions used in Experiment 1

# Practice 1 Location: record store Participants: salesclerk; shopper 1 (female); shopper 2 (female); shopper 3 (female) Events: The salesclerk yelled at shopper 1. The salesclerk gossiped about shopper 2. The salesclerk assisted shopper 3. Who will never set foot in the store again? The \_\_\_\_\_\_that \_\_\_\_\_ Example for good response: The shopper that the salesclerk yelled at. Example for bad response: The shopper that got yelled at. Bad because some details from context are missing. Practice 2 Location: crowded restaurant

1 res	a university	professor, grad-studer	nt 1 complimented	d, Who went home feeling the
	Setting	Characters	Verbs	Question
Experiment	al items			
Bad because	e it's incorre	ct: It wasn't the owner	er's son.	
Example for	r bad respon	se: The owner's son,	who the owner's	daughter argued with.
Example for	r good respo	onse: The diner, who	the owner argue	d with.
The		, who		
who experi	checa bad sv	51 VICC .		
Who experi	enced bad se	ervice?		
The owner a	argued with	the diner.		
The owner's	daughter ar	gued with the owner	's son.	
The owner's	s son argued	with the owner's day	ighter.	
Events:				
Participants	: owner, din	er (male), the owner	's son, the owner	's daughter

(female),grad-student 2

(female), grad-student 3

(female)

saw, greeted

boss's appreciation?

	Nres	a university	professor, grad-student		
			(female),undergrad,		
			janitor (male)		
2	res	a mall	security guard, shopper 1	interrogated,	Who went home believing that
			(male), shopper 2 (male),	identified,	people in the service industry
			shopper 3 (male)	helped	are sensitive to others?
-	Nres	a mall	security guard, shopper		
			(male),child (male),		
			mother		
3	res	a public	the CEO, secretary 1	praised,	Who is most likely to buy the
		company	(female), secretary 2	ignored,	boss a nice gift for Christmas?
			(female), secretary 3	snubbed	
			(female)		
-	Nres	a public	the CEO, secretary	-	
		company	(female), file clerk		
			(female), computer		
			technician (male)		
4	res	a newsroom	news editor, journalist 1	guided,	Who would feel comfortable
			(male), journalist 2	tricked,	asking for help from an
			(male), journalist 3	reviewed	authority figure?
			(male)		
-	Nres	a newsroom	news editor, journalist	-	
			(male), head designer		
			(female), photo editor		
			(male)		
5	res	a	manager, cashier 1	comforted,	

		(female), cashier 3		Who would feel comfortable
		(female)		asking for help from an
Nres	a	manager, cashier	-	authority figure?
	supermarket	(female), bagger (male),		
		stock clerk (female)		
res	a restaurant	chef, sue chef 1 (male),	defended,	Who is most likely to buy the
		sue chef 2 (male), sue	corrected, met	boss a nice gift for Christmas?
		chef 3 (male)		
Nres	a restaurant	chef, sue chef (male),		
		hostess, waiter		
res	a hospital	physician, nurse 1	recommended,	Who went home feeling the
		(female), nurse 2	interviewed,	boss's appreciation?
		(female), nurse 3	accompanied	
		(female)		
Nres	a hospital	physician, nurse		
		(female), x-ray		
		technician (female),		
		pharmacist (male)		
res	a sushi	owner, waiter 1, waiter 2,	praised,	Who went home feeling the
	place	waiter 3	briefed,	boss's appreciation?
			_	
Nres	a sushi	owner, waiter, busser	delayed	
Nres	a sushi	owner, waiter, busser (male), customer	delayed	
Nres			delayed	
Nres		(male), customer	delayed recruited,	Who is most likely to buy the
	place	(male), customer (female)	•	Who is most likely to buy the boss a nice gift for Christmas?
	place	(male), customer (female) department head, cleaner	recruited,	
	res	res a restaurant  Nres a restaurant  res a hospital  Nres a hospital	Nres a manager, cashier supermarket (female), bagger (male), stock clerk (female)  res a restaurant chef, sue chef 1 (male), sue chef 2 (male), sue chef 3 (male)  Nres a restaurant chef, sue chef (male), hostess, waiter  res a hospital physician, nurse 1 (female), nurse 2 (female), nurse 3 (female)  Nres a hospital physician, nurse (female), x-ray technician (female), pharmacist (male)  res a sushi owner, waiter 1, waiter 2,	Nres   a   manager, cashier   supermarket   (female), bagger (male), stock clerk (female)

	Nres	a city hall	department head, cleaner		
			(female), councilwoman,		
			citizen (male)		
10	res	a zoo	head caregiver, caregiver	supported,	Who would feel comfortable
			1 (male), caregiver 2	blocked,	asking for help from an
			(male), caregiver 3	educated	authority figure?
			(male)		
	Nres	a zoo	head caregiver, caregiver	-	
			(male), patron (male),		
			tour guide (female)		
11	res	a factory	assembly-line manager,	motivated,	Who is most likely to buy the
			worker 1	fined,	boss a nice gift for Christmas?
			(female),worker 2	mentioned	
			(female), worker 3		
			(female)		
	Nres	a factory	assembly-line manager,	-	
			worker (female),cleaner		
			(female), safety inspector		
			(male)		
12	res	the	trainer, runner 1 (male),	nurtured,	Who would feel comfortable
		Olympic	runner 2 (male), runner 3	worked,	asking for help from an
		Village	(male)	drafted	authority figure?
	Nres	the	trainer, runner (male),	-	
		Olympic	weightlifter (male), diver		
		Village	(female)		
13	res	a dental	dentist, hygienist 1		Who went home feeling the
		clinic	(female),hygienist 2		boss's appreciation?
			( )		Tr

			(female), hygienist 3	backed,	
			(female)	watched,	
	Nres	a dental	dentist, hygienist	introduced	
		clinic	(female), receptionist		
			(female), patient's father		
14	res	an	art-director, designer 1	quoted,	Who is most likely to buy the
		advertising	(male), designer 2	instructed,	boss a nice gift for Christmas?
		agency	(male), designer 3 (male)	focused	
	Nres	an	art-director, designer	-	
		advertising	(male), jingle writer		
		agency	(male), market research		
			analyst (female)		
15	res	an airplane	pilot, stewardess	applauded	Who went home feeling the
			1,stewardess 2,	found,	boss's appreciation?
			stewardess 3	sketched	
	Nres	an airplane	pilot, stewardess ,co-	-	
			pilot (male), frequent		
			flyer (male)		
16	res	a chemistry	researcher, assistant 1	congratulated,	Who went home feeling the
		lab	(male), assistant 2 (male),	confronted,	boss's appreciation?
			assistant 3 (male)	fired	
	Nres	a chemistry	researcher, assistant	-	
		lab	(male),lab tech (female),		
			janitor (female)		
17	res	a city bus	driver, passenger 1		
			(female),passenger 2		

			(female), passenger 3	complimented,	Who went home believing that
			(female)	noticed,	people in the service industry
	Nres	a city bus	driver, passenger	charged	are sensitive to others?
			(female),old woman,		
			little boy		
18	res	a rental	owner, tenant 1	helped,	Who would feel comfortable
		apartment	(male),tenant 2 (male),	limited,	asking for help from an
			tenant 3 (male)	directed	authority figure?
	Nres	a rental	owner, tenant	-	
		apartment	(male), electrician (male),		
			florist (female)		
19	res	a nightclub	bouncer, clubber 1	encouraged,	Who went home believing that
			(female), clubber 2	stopped, tested	people in the service industry
			(female), clubber 3		are sensitive to others?
			(female)		
	Nres	a nightclub	bouncer, clubber	-	
			(female), D.J. (male),		
			photographer (female)		
20	res	a bar	owner, bartender 1	guided,	Who would feel comfortable
			(male),bartender 2	recruited,	asking for help from an
			(male), bartender 3	suspected	authority figure?
			(male)		
	Nres	a bar	owner, bartender (male),	-	
			cocktail waitress,		
			delivery guy		
21	res	a swimming	lifeguard, swimmer 1		
		pool	(female),swimmer 2		

			(female), swimmer 3	comforted,	Who went home believing that
			(female)	warned,	people in the service industry
	Nres	a swimming	lifeguard, swimmer	blocked	are sensitive to others?
		pool	(female), teenager		
			(female), tourist (male)		
22	res	a yoga class	instructor, student 1	congratulated,	Who would feel comfortable
			(male), student 2 (male),	embarrassed,	asking for help from an
			student 3 (male)	adjusted	authority figure?
	Nres	a yoga class	instructor, student	-	
			(male), trainee (male),		
			junior instructor		
23	res	a banana	farmer, day-worker 1	defended,	Who is most likely to buy the
		plantation	(female), day-worker 2	selected,	boss a nice gift for Christmas?
			(female), day-worker 3	acknowledged	
			(female)		
	Nres	a banana	farmer, day-worker	-	
		plantation	(female), cowboy,		
			banker (male)		
24	res	a dry	manager, cleaner 1	recommended,	Who went home feeling the
		cleaners	(male), cleaner 2 (male),	recorded,	boss's appreciation?
			cleaner 3 (male)	doubted	
	Nres	a dry	manager, cleaner (male),	-	
		cleaners	business man, politician		
			(female)		
25	res	a event	producer, waitress	encouraged,	Who is most likely to buy the
		production	1, waitress 2, waitress 3	recognized,	boss a nice gift for Christmas?
		company		skipped	
		company		skipped	

	Nres	a event	producer, waitress,		
		production	caterer, band leader		
		company			
26	res	a choir	leader, singer 1	reassured,	Who would feel comfortable
			(female),singer 2	stopped,	asking for help from an
			(female), singer 3	imitated	authority figure?
			(female)		
	Nres	a choir	leader, singer (female),	-	
			accompanist (female),		
			audience member		
			(female)		
27	res	a hair salon	hairdresser, intern 1	quoted,	Who is most likely to buy the
			(male),intern 2 (male),	interrupted,	boss a nice gift for Christmas?
			intern 3 (male)	remembered	
	Nres	a hair salon	hairdresser, intern	-	
			(male), housewife, frat		
			brother		
28	res	a beauty	head cosmetician,	motivated,	Who went home believing that
		parlor	costumer 1	insulted,	people in the service industry
			(female),costumer 2	slapped	are sensitive to others?
			(female), costumer 3		
			(female)		
	Nres	a beauty	head cosmetician,	-	
		parlor	costumer (female),		
			manicurist (male), waxer		
			(female)		

29	res	a therapist's	therapist, patient 1	nurtured,	Who would feel comfortable
		clinic	(female),patient 2	mentioned,	asking for help from an
			(female), patient 3	manipulated	authority figure?
			(female)		
	Nres	a therapist's	therapist, patient	-	
		clinic	(female), receptionist		
			(male), delivery girl		
30	res	a coffee	barista, intern 1 (male),	backed,	Who is most likely to buy the
		shop	intern 2 (male), intern 3	disregarded,	boss a nice gift for Christmas?
			(male)	discouraged	
	Nres	a coffee	barista, intern (male),	-	
		shop	writer (female), hipster		
			(male)		
31	Res	a	psychiatrist, patient 1	applauded,	Who would feel comfortable
		psychiatric	(female), patient 2	found,	asking for help from an
		hospital	(female), patient 3	examined	authority figure?
			(female)		
	Nres	a	psychiatrist, patient	-	
		psychiatric	(female), orderly		
		hospital	(female), visitor (female)		
32	Res	a university	librarian, student 1	supported,	Who went home believing that
		library	(male), student 2 (male),	shushed,	people in the service industry
			student 3 (male)	overheard	are sensitive to others?
	Nres	a university	librarian , student (male),	-	
		library	professor (male),		
			teaching assistant		
			(female)		

# Appendix B: Practice items and settings, characters, verbs and questions used in Experiment 2

$P_{i}$	ractice	1

מיקום: חנות תקליטים

Location: record store

משתתפים: זבנית, קונה א', קונה ב', קונה ג'

Participants: sales-clerk(F), shopper(M) A, shopper(M) B, shopper(M) C

events that took place אירועים שהתרחשו

The sales-clerk bothered (to) shopper A 'א הזבנית הציקה לקונה א'

The sales-clerk moved shopper C הזבנית הזיזה את קונה ג'

The sales-clerk ignored shopper B בינית התעלמה מקונה ב'

?שאלה: מי חזר הביתה עם תקליט שהוא לא ממש רצה

Question: who returned home with a record he didn't really want?

תשובה טובה: הקונה שהזבנית הציקה לו

Good answer: the shopper that the sales-clerk bothered (to)-him

תשובה גרועה: האיש שקנה אותם.

Bad answer: the man who bought them

סיבוז. לא נעשוז שימוש בפו טים הו לוונטיים הנוגונים בהקשו
Reason: the relevant details provided by the context weren't used
מיקום: מסעדה סינית ברחוב אלנבי
Location: Chinese restaurant on Allenby Street
משתתפים: מלצר, סועדת, בנו של המלצר, בתו של המלצר
Participants: waiter, diner(F), the waiter's son, the waiter's daughter
rancipants. water, unler(1), the water 3 son, the water 3 daughter
אירועים שהתרחשו
s's daughter screamed at the waiter's son בתו של המלצר צעקה על בנו של המלצר
s's son screamed at the waiter's daughter בנו של המלצר צעק על בתו של המלצר
The waiter screamed at the diner המלצר צעק על הסועדת
מי חוותה שירות גרוע?
Who experienced bad service?
, שכאמור, שכאמור
תשובה טובה: הסועדת, שכאמור המלצר צעק עליה
Good answer: the diner, that-as-mentioned, the waiter screamed at her

תשובה גרועה: הבת של המלצר, שכאמור, הבן של המלצר צעק עליה.

Bad answer: the waiter's daughter, that-as-mentioned the waiter's son screamed at her

סיבה: התשובה לא מתאימה לקריטריון שהוצג בשאלה, לא מדובר כאן בשירות גרוע.

Reason: the answer does not match the question, this wasn't about bad service

#### Experimental items

		Setting	Characters		Verbs		Question	
1	Res	a university	מרצָה,	a professor(M),	ליטף, העדיף,	petted,	למי	To which
			סטודנטית א',	student(F) A,	עקף	favored,	מהמשתתפים	participant
					واال			
			סטודנטית ב',	student(F) B,		passed-by	תמליצו	would you
			'סטודנטית ג	student(F) C			להגיש	recommend to
	Nres	•	מרצָה,	a professor(M),	-		תלונה	complain to
			,סטודנטית	student(F), son of the			לוועדת	the discipline
			בנו של	professor, daughter of			?המשמעת	committee?
			המרצה, בתו	the professor				
			של המרצה					
2	Res	a mall	מאבטחת,	security guard(F),	צבטה, זיהתה,	pinched,	למי	To which
			לקוח א',	costumer(M) A,	הכניסה	identified,	מהמשתתפים	participant
			לקוח ב',	costumer(M) B,		let-in	תמליצו	would you
			לקוח ג'	costumer(M) C			להגיש	recommend to
	Nres	-	מאבטחת,	security guard(F),	-		תלונה	complain to
			לקוח, נכדתה	costumer, security			לוועדת	the discipline
			של המאבטחת,	guard's granddaughter,			?המשמעת	committee?

			נכדה של	security guard's				
			המאבטחת	grandson				
3	Res	government	מנכ"ל,	CEO, secretary(F) A,	נישק, מידר,	kissed,	למי	Which
		owned	פקידה א',	secretary(F) B,	טיפח	excluded,	מהמשתתפים	participant
		company	פקידה ב',	secretary(F) C		nurtured	כדאי לפנות	should turn to
			'פקידה ג				לנציב פניות	the workers'
	Nres		מנכ"ל,	CEO, secretary(F),	-		?העובדים	representative?
			פקידה, נכדתו	CEO's granddaughter,				
			של המנכ"ל,	CEO's grandson				
			נכדו של					
			המנכ"ל					
4	Res	newspaper	עורכת, כתב	editor(F), reporter(M)	חפנה, אתגרה,	groped,	מי חווה	Who
		headquarters	א', כתב ב',	A, reporter(M) B,	ביקרה	challenged,	הטרדה	experienced
			'כתב ג	reporter(M) C		criticized	במסגרת	harassment by
	Nres		עורכת, כתב,	editor(F), reporter(M),	-		יחסי מרות?	an authority
			בתה של	editor's daughter,				figure?
			העורכת, בנה	editor's son				
			של העורכת					
5	Res	a	מנהל	manager(M),	דחף, הרגיע,	pushed,	למי	Which
		supermarket	משמרת,	cashier(F) A,	דמיין	clamed,	מהמשתתפים	participant
			,'קופאית א	cashier(F) B,		imagined	כדאי לפנות	should turn to
			קופאית ב',	cashier(F) C			לנציב פניות	the workers'
			'קופאית ג				?העובדים	representative?
	Nres		מנהל	manager(M),	-			
			משמרת,	cashier(F), manager's				
			קופאית, בנו	son, manager's				
			של מנהל	daughter				
			המשמרת,					
			בתו של מנהל					
			המשמרת					

6	Res	a restaurant	שפית, סו-	chef(F), sue-chef(M)	הכתה, עודדה,	hit,	למי	To which
			שף א', סו-שף	A, sue-shed(M) B, sue-	דובבה	encouraged,	מהמשתתפים	participant
			ב', סו-שף ג'	chef(M) C		induced-to-	תמליצו	would you
	Nres	-	שפית, סו-	chef(F), sue-chef(M),		speak	להגיש	recommend to
			שף, נכדה של	chef's granddaughter,			תלונה	complain to
			השפית,	chef's grandson			לוועדת	the discipline
			נכדתה של				?המשמעת	committee?
			השפית					
7	Res	a hospital	רופא, אחות	doctor(M), nurse(F) A,	גיפף, ראיין,	fondled,	למי	To which
			א', אחות ב',	nurse(F) B, nurse(F) C	ליווה	interviewed,	מהמשתתפים	participant
			'אחות ג			accompanied	תמליצו	would you
	Nres	-	רופא, אחות,	doctor(M), nurse(F),			להגיש	recommend to
			אשתו של	doctor's wife, doctor's			תלונה	complain to
			,הרופא	daughter			לוועדת	the discipline
			המאהבת של				?המשמעת	committee?
			הרופא					
8	Res	a sushi-bar	בעלים,	owner, waitress A,	הפשיט,	stripped,	מי חוותה	Who
			מלצרית א',	waitress B, waitress C	הכשיר, עיכב	trained,	התנהגות לא	experienced
			מלצרית ב',			stalled	נאותה של	inappropriate
			'מלצרית ג				?בעל סמכות	behavior of an
	Nres	-	בעלים,	owner, waitress,				authority
			מלצרית,	owner's wife, owner's				figure?
			אשתו של	lover				
			,הבעלים					
			המאהבת של					
			הבעלים					
9	Res	city hall	מנהלת אגף,	department	רחרחה,	sniffed,	למי	Which
			מנקָה א',	manager(F),	שיבצה,	assigned,	מהמשתתפים	participant
			מנקָה ב',	cleaner(M) A,	תשאלה	questioned	כדאי לפנות	should turn to
			'מנקָה ג	cleaner(M) B,			לנציב פניות	the workers'
				cleaner(M) C			?העובדים	representative?

	Nres		מנהלת אגף,	department				
			בנה של	manager(F),				
			מנהלת האגף,	cleaner(M), manager's				
			בתה של	son, manager's				
			מנהלת האגף,	daughter				
			מנקָה					
10	Res	a zoo	מטפלת	head caregiver(F),	דגדגה,	tickled, hid,	למי	Which
			,ראשית	feeder(M) A,	הסתירה,	educated	מהמשתתפים	participant
			מאכיל א',	feeder(M) B,	חינכה		כדאי לפנות	should turn to
			מאכיל ב',	feeder(M) C			לנציב פניות	the workers'
			מאכיל ג				?העובדים	representative?
	Nres	-	מטפלת	head caregiver(F),	_			
			,ראשית	feeder(M), head				
			מאכיל, נכדה	caregiver's grandson,				
			של המטפלת,	head caregiver's				
			נכדתה של	granddaughter				
			המטפלת					
11	Res	a factory	מנהל פס-	assembly-line	ליקק, הילל,	licked,	מי חוותה	who
			ייצור, פועלת	manager(M),	הזכיר	praised,	התנהגות לא	experienced
			א', פועלת ב',	worker(F) A,		mentioned	נאותה של	harassment by
			'פועלת ג	worker(F) B,			?בעל סמכות	an authority
				worker(F) C				figure?
	Nres	-	מנהל פס-	assembly-line	_			
			ייצור, פועלת,	manager(M),				
			אשתו של	worker(F), manager's				
			המנהל,	wife, manager's lover				
			המאהבת של					
			המנהל					
12	Res	a gym	מאמנת, אצן	coach(F), runner(M)	מזמזה, הריצה,	necked, ran,	מי חווה	Who
			,א', אצן ב',	A, runner(M) B,	בירכה	congratulated	הטרדה	experienced
			'אצן ג	runner(M) C				harassment by

	Nres		מאמנת, אצן,	coach(F), runner(M),			במסגרת	an authority
			בעלה של	coach's husband,			יחסי מרות?	figure?
			המאמנת,	coach's lover				
			המאהב של					
			המאמנת					
13	Res	a dental	רופא שיניים,	dentist(M),	תפס, שכר,	grabbed,	מי חווה	Who
		clinic	שיננית א',	hygienist(F) A,	הציג	hired,	הטרדה	experienced
			שיננית ב',	hygienist(F) B,		introduced	במסגרת	harassment by
			'שיננית ג	hygienist(F) C			יחסי מרות?	an authority
	Nres		רופא שיניים,	dentist(M),	-			figure?
			שיננית, בנו	hygienist(F), dentist's				
			של רופא	son, dentist's daughter				
			השיניים, בתו					
			של רופא					
			השיניים					
14	Res	advertising	-ארט	art-director(F),	טלטלה,	shook,	למי	To which
		agency	,דיירקטורית	designer(M) A,	מיקדה, תיקנה	focused,	מהמשתתפים	participant
			,'גרפיקאי א'	designer(M) B,		corrected	תמליצו	would you
			,'גרפיקאי ב	designer(M) C			להגיש	recommend to
			'גרפיקאי ג				תלונה	complain to
	Nres		ארט-	art-director(F),	-		לוועדת	the discipline
			,דיירקטורית	designer(M), art			?המשמעת	committee?
			גרפיקאי,	director's grandson,				
			נכדה של	art-director				
			-הארט	granddaughter				
			דיירקטורית,					
			נכדתה של					
			-הארט					
			דיירקטורית					

15	Res	an airplane	טייס, דיילת	pilot(M), Stewardess	נשך, שירת,	bit, served,	למי	Which
			א', דיילת ב',	A, Stewardess B.,	צייר	painted	מהמשתתפים	participant
			דיילת ג,	Stewardess C			כדאי לפנות	should turn to
	Nres		טייס, דיילת,	pilot(M), Stewardess,			לנציב פניות	the workers'
			המאהבת של	pilot's lover, pilot's			?העובדים	representative?
			הטייס, אשתו	wife				
			של הטייס					
16	Res	a lab	חוקרת,	researcher(F), lab	חיבקה,	hugged,	מי חווה	Who
			לבורנט א',	assistant(M) A, lab	תגמלה, פיטרה	rewarded,	התנהגות לא	experienced
			לבורנט ב',	assistant(M) B, lab		fired	נאותה של	harassment by
			לבורנט ג'	assistant(M) C			בעלת	an authority
	Nres		חוקרת,	researcher(F), lab			?סמכות	figure?
			לבורנט, בנה	assistant(M),				
			של החוקרת,	researcher's son,				
			בתה של	researcher's daughter				
			החוקרת					
17	Res	a bus	נהג, נוסעת	driver(M),	ליטף, הציל,	caressed,	למי	To which
			,'א', נוסעת ב',	passenger(F) A,	הוריד	saved,	מהמשתתפים	participant
			נוסעת ג'	passenger(F) B,		dropped-of	תמליצו	would you
				passenger(F) C			להגיש	recommend to
	Nres		נהג, נוסעת,	driver(M),			תלונה	complain to
			נכדתו של	passenger(F), driver's			לוועדת	the discipline
			הנהג, נכדו	granddaughter, driver's			?המשמעת	committee?
			של הנהג	grandson				
18	Res	a rental	בעלת הדירה,	landlady, resident(M)	צבטה, הגבילה,	pinched,	מי חווה	Who
		apartment	דייר א', דייר	A, resident(M) B,	כיוונה	limited,	התנהגות לא	experienced
			ב', דייר ג'	resident(M) C		directed	נאותה של	inappropriate
	Nres		בעלת הדירה,	landlady, resident(M),			בעלת	behavior of an
			דייר, בנה של	landlady's son,			?סמכות	authority

			בתה של בעלת					
			הדירה					
19	Res	a club	שומר סף,	bouncer(M), patron(F)	נישק,	kissed,	מי חווה	Who
			בליינית א',	A, patron(F) B,	עצר, בחן	stopped,	הטרדה	experienced
			בליינית ב',	patron(F) C		examined	במסגרת	harassment by
			בליינית ג'				יחסי מרות?	an authority
	Nres	-	שומר סף,	bouncer(M), patron(F),				figure?
			בליינית, נכדו	bouncer's grandson,				
			של שומר	bouncer's				
			הסף, נכדו של	granddaughter				
			שומר הסף					
20	Res	a pub	בעלת עסק,	owner(F),	חפנה ,גייסה,	groped,	מי חווה	Who
			בארמן א',	bartender(M) A,	הבינה	drafted,	התנהגות לא	experienced
			בארמן ב',	bartender(M) B,		understood	נאותה של	inappropriate
			'בארמן ג	bartender(M) C			בעלת	behavior of an
	Nres	-	בעלת עסק,	owner(F),			?סמכות	authority
			בארמן, בתה	bartender(M), owner's				figure?
			של בעלת	daughter, owner's son				
			היסק, בנה					
			של בעלת					
			העסק					
21	Res	a swimming	מציל,	lifeguard(M), bather(F)	גיפף,הסיע,	fondled,	מי חוותה	Who
		pool	מתרחצת א',	A, bather(F) B,	פגש	drove, met	הטרדה	experienced
			מתרחצת ב',	bather(F) C			במסגרת	harassment by
			'מתרחצת ג				יחסי מרות?	an authority
	Nres		מציל,	lifeguard(M),bather(F),				figure?
			מתרחצת,	lifeguard's wife,				
			אשת המציל,	lifeguard's lover				
			מאהבתו של					
			המציל					

22	Res	a yoga class	מדריכת יוגה,	instructor(F),	היכתה,	hit, praised,	מי חווה	Who
			מתרגל א',	student(M) A,	שיבחה,	hired	התנהגות לא	experienced
			מתרגל ב',	student(M) B,	העסיקה		נאותה של	inappropriate
			'מתרגל ג	student(M) C			בעלת	behavior of an
	Nres	-	מדריכת יוגה,	instructor(F),			?סמכות	authority
			מתרגל, נכדה	student(M), instructor's				figure?
			של מדריכת	grandson, instructor's				
			היוגה, נכדתה	granddaughter				
			של מדריכת					
			היוגה					
23	Res	a banana	חקלאי,	farmer(M), worker(F)	דחף, בחר,	pushed,	מי חווה	Who
		plantation	,'עובדת א'	A, worker(F) B,	ראה	chose, saw	הטרדה	experienced
			,'עובדת ב'	worker(F) C			במסגרת	harassment by
			'עובדת ג				יחסי מרות?	an authority
	Nres	-	חקלאי,	farmer(M), worker(F),				figure?
			עובדת, נכדתו	famer's granddaughter,				
			של החקלאי,	farmer's grandson				
			נכדו של					
			החקלאי					
24	Res	a laundry	מנהלת	manager(F) washer(M)	רחרחה,	sniffed,	למי	Which
		place	המכבסה,	A, washer(M) B,	הקליטה,	recorded,	מהמשתתפים	participant
			כובס א',	washer(M) C	תחקרה	questioned	כדאי לפנות	should turn to
			כובס ב',				לנציב פניות	the workers'
			כובס ג'				?העובדים	representative?
	Nres	-	מנהלת	manager(F) washer(M)				
			מכבסה,	A, manager's				
			כובס, נכדתה	granddaughter,				
			של מנהלת	manager's grandson				
			המכבסה,					
			נכדה של					

			מנהלת					
			המכבסה					
25	Res	a wedding	מפיק חתונות,	wedding planner(M),	הפשיט,ציטט,	stripped,	למי	Which
		venue	מלצרית א',	waitress A, waitress B,	שכח	quoted,	מהמשתתפים	participant
			מלצרית ב',	waitress C		forgot	כדאי לפנות	should turn to
			מלצרית ג'				לנציב פניות	the workers'
	Nres		מפיק חתונות,	wedding planner(M),			?העובדים	representative:
			מלצרית,	waitress, planner's				
			אשתו של	wife, planner's lover				
			מפיק					
			החתונות,					
			המאהבת של					
			מפיק החתונות					
26	Res	a state choir	מנהלת	choir manager(F),	דגדגה,	tickled,	למי	To which
			המקהלה, זמר	singer(M) A,	הפסיקה,	stopped,	מהמשתתפים	participant
			א, זמר ב',	singer(M) B,	קידמה	promoted	תמליצו	would you
			'זמר ג	singer(M) C			להגיש	recommend to
	Nres		מנהלת	choir manager(F),			תלונה	complain to
			המקהלה,	singer, manager's son,			לוועדת	the discipline
			זמר, בנה של	manager's daughter			?המשמעת	committee?
			מנהלת					
			המקהלה,					
			בתה של					
			מנהלת					
			המקהלה					
27	Res	a branch of	ספר, חופפת	hairdresser(M),	ליקק, העיר,	licked, woke,	למי	Which
		a hairstyling	א', חופפת ב',	washer(F) A,	זכר	remembered	מהמשתתפים	participant
		chain	'חופפת ג	washer(F) B,			כדאי לפנות	should turn to
				washer(F) C			לנציב פניות	the workers'
	Nres		ספר, חופפת,	hairdresser(M),			?העובדים	representative?
			,אשת הספר	washer, hairdresser's				

			המאהבת של	wife, hairdresser's				
			הספר	lover				
28	Res	a beauty	קוסמטיקאית,	cosmetician(F),	מזמזה,הדריכה,	necked,	מי חווה	Who
		parlor	לקוח א',	costumer(M) A,	איפרה	guided, put-	התנהגות לא	experienced
			לקוח ב',	costumer(M) B,		makeup-on	נאותה של	inappropriate
			'לקוח ג	costumer(M) C			בעלת	behavior of an
	Nres		קוסמטיקאית,	cosmetician(F),	-		?סמכות	authority
			לקוח, בעלה	costumer(M),				figure?
			של	cosmetician's husband,				
			,הקוסמטיקאית	cosmetician's husband				
			המאהב של					
			הקוסמטיקאית					
29	Res	a clinic	פסיכולוג,	therapist(M),	,תפס, אזכר	grabbed,	מי חוותה	Who
			מטופלת א',	patient(F) A, patient(F)	דרבן	mentioned,	התנהגות לא	experienced
			מטופלת ב',	B, patient(F) C		motivated	נאותה של	inappropriate
			מטופלת ג'				?בעל סמכות	behavior of an
	Nres		פסיכולוג,	therapist(M),				authority
			מטופלת, בנו	patient(F), therapist's				figure?
			של	son, therapist's				
			הפסיכולוג,	daughter				
			בתו של					
			הפסיכולוג					
30	Res	a coffee	בריסטה,	barista, intern(M) A,	טלטלה, סקרה,	shook, made-	מי חווה	Who
		shop	מתלמד א',	intern(M) B, intern(M)	אימנה	curios,	הטרדה	experienced
			מתלמד ב',	С		trained	במסגרת	harassment by
			'מתלמד ג				יחסי מרות?	an authority
	Nres		בריסטה,	barista, intern(M),				figure?
			מתלמד,	barista's				
			נכדתה של	granddaughter,				

			נכדה של					
			הבריסטה					
31	Res	a psychiatric	,פסיכיאטר	psychiatrist(M),	נשך, חיפש,	bit, sought,	מי חווה	Who
		hospital	מאושפזת א',	inpatient(F) A,	בדק	examined	הטרדה	experienced
			מאושפזת ב',	inpatient(F) B,			במסגרת	harassment by
			'מאושפזת ג	inpatient(F) C			יחסי מרות?	an authority
	Nres		,פסיכיאטר	psychiatrist(M),	_			figure?
			מאושפזת,	inpatient(F),				
			אשת	psychiatrist's wife,				
			,הפסיכיאטר	psychiatrist's lover				
			המאהבת של					
			הפסיכיאטר					
32	Res	a university	ספרנית,	librarian(F),	חיבקה, לימדה,	hugged,	למי	To which
		library	,'סטודנט א',	student(M) A,	שמעה	taught, heard	מהמשתתפים	participant
			סטודנט ב',	student(M) B,			תמליצו	would you
			'סטודנט ג	student(M) C			להגיש	recommend to
	Nres		ספרנית,	librarian(F),	-		תלונה	complain to
			סטודנט, בנה	student(M), librarian's			לוועדת	the discipline
			של הספרנית,	son, librarian's			?המשמעת	committee?
			בתה של	daughter				

# Appendix C: Practice items, verbs and questions used in Experiment 3 (for all pictures, see supplementary material).

#### Practice 1

סוטר/ת

Slap



Figure C1. Picture used in Practice 1, Experiment 3.

מי מחזיקה זר לבן?

Who is holding a white bouquet?

	₩	_ 7
ה שהמכשפה סוטרת לה	זובה טובה: הכלז	תע
Cool an array of the heider that the arrival		
Good answer: the bride that the witch	i is siapping n	er
ה שעומדת ליד המכשפה.	זובה גרועה: הכי	תע
Bad answer: the bride standing n	ext to the wit	ch
ימוש בפועל הנתון	בה: לא נעשה ש	סי
Reason: the given v	orb woen't ne	ad
Keason, the given v	cio wasii t us	cu

### <u>Practice 2</u>

נושא/ת

Carry

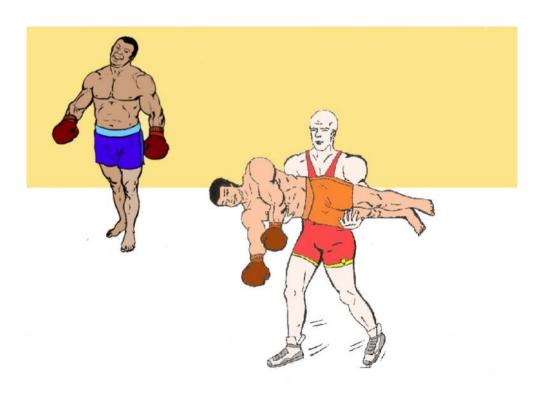


Figure C2. Picture used in Practice 2, Experiment 3.

למי יש אוברול אדום?	
Who has red overalls?	
,,, L	

תשובה טובה: האיש שנושא את המתאגרף

Good answer: (to) the man who carries the boxer

תשובה גרועה: המתאגרף שעומד ברקע.

Bad answer: the boxer standing in the background

סיבה: תשובה לא נכונה

Reason: wrong answer

### Experimental items

		Verb		question	
1	Anmt	צבט/ה	pinched	מי לובש בגד ים סגול?	Who is wearing a
					purple bathing suit?
	Inan	צבט/ה	pinched	?מה בתמונה צהוב	What is yellow in the
					picture?
2	Anmt	צילמ/ה	photographed	?מי לובשת ז'אקט ורוד	Who is wearing a pink
					jacket?
	Inan	צילמ/ה	photographed	?מה בתמונה צהוב	What is yellow in the
					picture?
3	Anmt	דחפ/ה	pushed	מי לובשת שמלה	Who is wearing a red
				?אדומה	dress?

	Inan	דחפ/ה	pushed	מה בתמונה סגול?	What in the picture is
					purple?
4	Anmt	היכה/תה	hit	מי לובש חולצה	Who is wearing a gray
				?אפורה	shirt?
	Inan	היכה/תה	hit	מה בתמונה כתום?	What in the picture is
					orange?
5	Anmt	הרימ/ה	lifted	?למי יש שיער חום	Who has brown hair?
	Inan	הרימ/ה	lifted	?מה בתמונה כסוף	What in the picture in
					silver?
6	Anmt	הרטיב/ה	got-wet	מי לובש בגדים	Who is wearing blue
			(transitive)	כחולים?	clothes?
	Inan	הרטיב/ה	got-wet	?מה בתמונה אדום	What in the picture is
			(transitive)		red?
7	Anmt	החזיק/ה	held	מי לובשת סווטשירט	who is wearing a
				?ורוד בוהק	bright pink sweatshirt
	Inan	החזיק/ה	held	?מה בתמונה ירוק	What in the picture in
					green?
8	Anmt	קשר/ה	tied	?מי לובש סוודר אדום	Who is wearing a red
					sweater?
	Inan	קשר/ה	tied	מה בתמונה שחור?	What in the picture is
					black?
9	Anmt	ליקק/ה	licked	מי לובש אוברול כחול?	Who is wearing blue
					overalls?
	Inan	ליקק/ה	licked	מה בתמונה אדום?	What in the picture in
					red?

10	Anmt	מצא/ה	found	למי יש פרווה חומה?	Who has brown fur?
	Inan	מצא/ה	found	מה בתמונה צהוב?	What is yellow in the
					picture?
11	Anmt	משכ/ה	pulled	למי יש חליפת טריינינג	Who has a light gray
				?באפור בהיר	sweat suit?
	Inan	משכ/ה	pulled	מה בתמונה כחול?	what is blue in the
					picture
12	Anmt	ליטפ/ה	petted/caressed	?למי יש מעיל שחור	Who has a black coat?
	Inan	ליטפ/ה	petted/caressed	?מה בתמונה ירוק	What is green in the
					picture?
13	anmt	סחב/ה	carried	?מי חובש כובע צהוב	Who is wearing a
					yellow hat?
	Inan	סחב/ה	carried	?מה בתמונה אדום	What in the picture is
					red?
14	anmt	נשכ/ה	bit	למי יש בגד ים סגול?	Who has a purple
					bathing suit?
	Inan	נשכ/ה	bit	?מה בתמונה צהוב	What is yellow in the
					picture?
15	anmt	נישק/ה	kissed	למי יש שיער	Who has blond hair?
				?בלונדיני	
	Inan	נישק/ה	kissed	מה בתמונה זהוב?	What is golden in the
					picture?
16	anmt	צבע/ה	painted	למי יש אימונית	Who has a red sweat
				?אדומה	suit?

	Inan	צבע/ה	painted	מה בתמונה אפור?	What is gray in the
					picture?
17	anmt	הבריש/ה	brushed	למי יש פרווה לבנה?	Who has white fur?
	Inan	הבריש/ה	brushed	מה בתמונה כתום?	What is orange in the
					picture?
18	anmt	תפס/ה	caught	למי יש חולצת טריקו	Who has an orange t-
				?כתומה	shirt?
	Inan	תפס/ה	caught	?מה בתמונה אדום	what is red in the
					picture
19	anmt	חיבק/ה	hugged	?למי יש מקטורן ירוק	Who has a green
					jacket?
	Inan	חיבק/ה	hugged	מה בתמונה לבן?	What is white in the
					picture?
20	anmt	חורר/ה	pierced	למי יש חולצה אפורה?	Who has a gray shirt?
	Inan	חורר/ה	pierced	מה בתמונה כחול	What in the picture in
				?ואדום	blue and red?