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## An investigation of heritage language speakers of Turkish: evidentiality processing and the effects of language experience

Tokac, Suzan Dilara

DOI:  
[10.33612/diss.593422246](https://doi.org/10.33612/diss.593422246)

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*Document Version*  
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

*Publication date:*  
2023

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

*Citation for published version (APA):*

Tokac, S. D. (2023). *An investigation of heritage language speakers of Turkish: evidentiality processing and the effects of language experience*. [Thesis fully internal (DIV), University of Groningen]. University of Groningen. <https://doi.org/10.33612/diss.593422246>

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## PROPOSITIONS

In heritage language speakers, linguistic phenomena that are acquired and/or mastered later in childhood are susceptible to attrition and/or incomplete acquisition and evidentiality is one such phenomenon.

*This dissertation (Chapters 3,4 and 5)*

Heritage language speakers' online evidentiality processing exhibits similarities to that of immigrants with a later onset of bilingualism, albeit with slower processing.

*This dissertation (Chapter 4)*

The use of tools allowing moment-by-moment measurement, such as self-paced reading tasks, can provide more detailed insights into the language processing of heritage language speakers than offline tasks.

*This dissertation (Chapter 4)*

Heritage language speakers of Turkish show selectively better processing of the evidential marker that is acquired earlier and the default form in Turkish (the direct evidential) compared to the semantically more marked form that is mastered later in childhood (the indirect evidential marker).

*This dissertation (Chapter 4)*

Performance and competence in processing of the grammatical category of evidentiality in Turkish vary amongst Turkish heritage language speakers.

*This dissertation (Chapter 5)*

The amount of early childhood exposure to the heritage language predicts performance on both moment-by-moment and offline processing of evidentiality in Turkish.

*This dissertation (Chapter 5)*

Stronger reading skills and higher literacy in the heritage language predict better accuracy in detecting evidentiality violations during offline measures such as auditory verification and sentence judgement tasks.

*This dissertation (Chapter 5)*

“Words are, in my not-so-humble opinion, our most inexhaustible source of magic, capable of both inflicting injury, and remedying it.”

*Albus Dumbledore*

“I am not young enough to know everything”.

*Oscar Wilde*