

Chomsky did not take into consideration children who experience delayed language development for a variety of reasons e.g. children who have a learning disability or hearing or speech impairments. Children with Down syndrome are among those whose language is frequently delayed.

Scenarios he used for his theory:

Dialogue –

Parent and **Child** (3 years old)

Parent: What did you do today?

Child: Me drewed a cat. (applies –ed suffix rule but gets wrong)

Parent: You drew a cat?

Child: Yeah. (understands correction)

Parent: Who did you play with at breaktime?

Child: Me played with Sarah and Helen. (wrong pronoun – not learnt passively)

Parent: That sound fun. Now what do you want for tea?

Child: Dunno. What you having?

Parent: Daddy and I are having fish.

Child: You having fishes? (incorrect use of plural noun but shows child applying rules)

Parent: Yes. I'll do you some fish fingers and if you're a good girl and eat them all you can have a sweetie. (applying plural noun rule)

Child: Me want two sweeties.

Parent: Alright then. Now go and watch Postman Pat while I start the tea.

Child: When Daddy coming home? (gets SVO order correct all the time)

Parent: He'll be here soon.

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