Special Issue

East Asian Perspectives on the Acquisition of Argument Structure

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue aims to present new crosslinguistic research on the acquisition of verb argument structure in East Asian languages, a linguistically diverse group used predominantly in eastern Asia. They exhibit distinctive typological features in verb argument structure, including extensive argument omission, relatively flexible word order, topic-comment structures, and verb compounds. The impact of such typological features on acquisition remains underexplored.

We invite contributions on a wide range of topics related to the acquisition of argument structure from lexical, clausal, and discourse perspectives. Submissions are encouraged from diverse theoretical and methodological approaches, focusing on both typical and atypical child or second-language learner populations of East Asian languages and dialects, as well as comparative studies involving East Asian languages and other languages. Our goal is to explore the nature of the acquisition processes, uncover underlying learning mechanisms, and identify both universal and language-specific factors that shape language development.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Jidong Chen

Department of Linguistics, California State University, Fresno, CA 93740, USA

Prof. Dr. Yasuhiro Shirai

Department of Cognitive Science, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH 44106, USA

Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 August 2025



Languages

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 1.2 CiteScore 1.8



mdpi.com/si/228029

Languages
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
languages@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/languages





Languages

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 1.2 CiteScore 1.8



About the Journal

Message from the Editorial Board

Languages (ISSN 2226-471X) is now in its eighth year since its inception in 2015. It is an Open Access journal which seeks to stimulate debates on key issues in languages and linguistics. We welcome papers at the cutting edge of different fields, ranging from applied linguistics to descriptive and theoretical linguistics. Submissions may consist of research articles and critical reviews as well as proposals for Special Issues where multi-disciplinary approaches and different perspectives on current issues are explored. We invite you to consider Languages as a forum for sharing your work.

Editors-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Jeanine Treffers-Daller

Department of English Language & Applied Linguistics, University of Reading, Reading RG6 6AH, UK

Prof. Dr. Anthony Pak-Hin Kong

- Academic Unit of Human Communication, Learning and Development (HCLD), The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China
- 2. Aphasia Research and Therapy (ART) Laboratory, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, ESCI (Web of Science), ERIH Plus, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Linguistics) / CiteScore - Q1 (Language and Linguistics)

