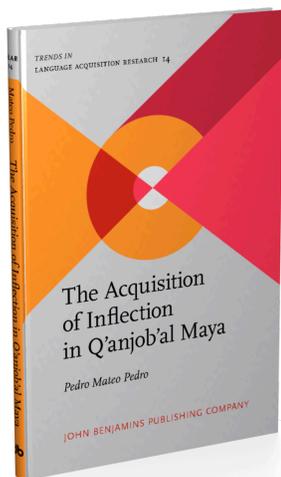


NEW BOOK INFORMATION

Language acquisition / Languages of North America / Morphology / Syntax /
Theoretical linguistics



The Acquisition of Inflection in Q'anjob'al Maya

Pedro Mateo Pedro

Most studies on the acquisition of verbal inflection have examined languages with a single verb suffix. This book offers a study on the acquisition of verb inflections in Q'anjob'al Maya. Q'anjob'al has separate inflections for aspect, subject and object agreement, and status suffixes. The subject and object inflections display a split ergative pattern. The subjects of intransitive verbs with aspect markers take absolutive markers, whereas the subjects of aspectless intransitive verbs take ergative markers. The acquisition of three types of clauses is explored in detail (imperatives, indicatives, and aspectless complements). The data come from longitudinal spontaneous speech of three monolingual Q'anjob'al children aged 1;8–3;5. This book contributes unique data to the debate on the acquisition of finite and non-finite verbs as well as adding to our understanding of the acquisition of split ergative patterns. The book is of interest to researchers and students working on linguistics and language acquisition.

[Trends in Language Acquisition Research, 14] 2015. xiii, 144 pp.

HB	978 90 272 4403 1	EUR 95.00
E-BOOK	978 90 272 6830 3	EUR 95.00

“Pedro Mateo Pedro’s important book adds to the growing body of work on L1 acquisition of Mayan languages. This careful study of the acquisition of Q’anjob’al verb inflection brings findings from a morphologically complex, split-ergative language to bear on theories of morpheme omission in early child language. Mateo Pedro shows a significant role for phonology in morpheme omission, and demonstrates that current theories based on morphological or syntactic simplification are inadequate. Clearly, many more studies of exactly this kind, on typologically diverse languages, are needed if we are to reach an understanding of how children acquire language.”

Judith Aissen, *UC Santa Cruz*

Table of contents

Acknowledgements
Abbreviations
Chapter 1. Introduction
Chapter 2. Theoretical background
Chapter 3. Methodology
Chapter 4. Acquisition of intransitive verbs
Chapter 5. Acquisition of transitive verbs
Chapter 6. Phonological effects and word order
Chapter 7. General conclusions
References
Index

JOHN BENJAMINS PUBLISHING COMPANY

www.benjamins.com