

# PROSODIA COMPARATIVA DEL INGLÉS Y EL CASTELLANO: DIFERENCIAS EN LA UBICACIÓN DE LA SÍLABA TONAL

GENERAL COMPARATIVE PROSODY OF GENERAL BRITISH ENGLISH AND *PORTEÑO* RIVER PLATE SPANISH: DIFFERENCES IN POST-NUCLEAR MATERIAL IN DECLARATIVE SENTENCES



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**GENERAL COMPARATIVE PROSODY OF GENERAL  
BRITISH ENGLISH AND *PORTEÑO* RIVER PLATE  
SPANISH: DIFFERENCES IN POST-NUCLEAR MATERIAL  
IN DECLARATIVE SENTENCES**

- ▶ **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OUR PROPOSAL**
- ▶ **LITERATURE REVIEW**
- ▶ **METHODOLOGY**
- ▶ **ISSUES - DATA COLLECTION TOOLS**
- ▶ **NEW TASKS AND OBJECTIVES**

# PURPOSE

Find what kind of items can be placed in post-nuclear position in declarative sentences in *Porteño* River Plate Spanish

Contrast this information with what is already known about General British English

# HYPOTHESIS

Different types of elements can be found in post-nuclear position in declarative sentences in *Porteño* River Plate Spanish

The Last Lexical Item Rule is not always followed in Spanish

Various types of syntactic elements may be de-accented in final position in the intonation phrase

# ROGER KINGDON

## ► Groundwork of English Intonation (1958)

### NORMALLY ACCENTED

NOUNS  
ADJECTIVES  
DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUNS  
EMPHATIC PRONOUNS  
INTERROGATIVE PRONOUNS  
DETERMINERS  
ADVERBS  
VERBS

### NORMALLY DE-ACCENTED

REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS  
RELATIVE PRONOUNS  
PERSONAL PRONOUNS  
RECIPROCAL PRONOUNS  
MONOSYLLABIC PREPOSITIONS  
CONJUNCTIONS

## ► LAST LEXICAL ITEM RULE – 1967 - M. A. K. Halliday

There is a strong tendency for the nucleus to be located on the last lexical item of an intonation phrase.

# CARLOS GUSSENHOVEN

- ▶ **On the Grammar and Semantics of Sentence Accents (1984)**  
Classification of different types of “tails” or “enclitic segments.”

## **'[+focus] tails'**

→ The TRAIN is coming

## **'typically minus-focus expressions'**

→ Time/space markers: *yet, today, the other day.*

→ Cohesion markers: *in fact, then, though, of course, on the other hand.*

# ALAN CRUTTENDEN

## ▶ Intonation (1997)

### "Counterpresuppositionals"

Those elements that are the axis of old information are accentuated, expanding the list of exceptions made by Halliday of the rule of the last lexical item.

- *When was Catherine of Aragon executed?*
- *She WASn't executed.*

# HÉCTOR ORTIZ-LIRA

► **Word Stress and Sentence Accent (1998)**

❖ **Final relative clauses**

This is the DOCTOR I was telling you about. //

❖ **Objects of general reference**

Let's go to MY place. //

❖ **Final vocatives**

Good MORNING, doctor. //

❖ **Reporting clauses**

I do not want to go OUT, I Said. //

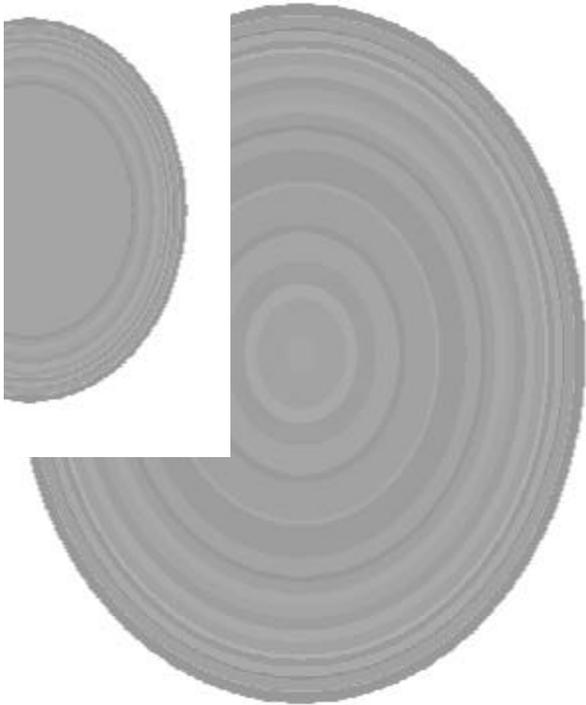
❖ **Final adverbs (time, space, courtesy, etc.)**

There's a FLY in my soup. //

I've really had eNOUGH, thank you. //

# DATA COLLECTION TOOLS

- ▶ Situational reading
- ▶ Guided interaction



# SITUATIONAL READING

- ▶ Nucleus placement influenced by decoding of message and its interpretation
- ▶ This hindered natural location of nucleus.

# SITUATIONAL READING

- ▶ ¿Qué dijo Clemente?
- ▶ Tengo hambre, dijo Clemente.



- ▶ ¿Quién hacía el papel de la mama en la película?
- ▶ Mercedes Morán hacía el papel de la mamá en la película.



- ▶ ¿Nó está confirmada la huelga del viernes?
- ▶ Es por ese motivo que quería hablar con vos.



- ▶ ¿Viste qué difícil ese problema?
- ▶ Sí, no se puede resolver.



## OTHER ISSUES

- ▶ Mini exchanges replaced.
- ▶ New criteria for informants.
- ▶ Future work.