

Psych156A/ Ling150

Spring 2010

Review Questions: Learning Biases

- (1) Terms/concepts to know: statistical learning, non-statistical learning, algebraic learning, non-adjacent probability, learning bias
- (2) What were the two tasks the adult learners had to accomplish in Peña et al. (2002)'s artificial language study? Does one necessarily precede the other?
- (3) What evidence do we have that adults can unconsciously track the probability of non-adjacent items, not just the transitional probability between adjacent items?
- (4) Were the adults in Peña et al (2002)'s study able to infer properties of words based on non-adjacent syllable probability? How do you know?
- (5) Under what circumstances could adults in Peña et al. (2002) use algebraic computation? (For instance, did it matter how long or how short the training was?)
- (6) What was the key structural difference in the stimuli used by Peña et al. (2002) in their experiments and the experiments done by Newport & Aslin (2004)? What was the point in choosing the particular stimuli Newport & Aslin chose?