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## Electronic Language Sample Analysis Options

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Jennifer Garrett, Ph.D., CCC-SLP  
University of Northern Iowa



## Session Overview

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- Introduction
- Overview of electronic programs available
- Resources for transcribing and coding language samples
- Practice with electronic programs
- Interpretation of results from Language Sample reports
- Conclusion



## Importance of Language Sample

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- Representative of language abilities and needs of the child
- One assessment tool
- Used to show growth or change across time
- Used to document therapy outcomes in natural settings
- See SpeechPathology.com presentation “Language Sample Techniques” from August 2014 for additional information (#6768)



## Language Transcription

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- Listen/Watch taped sample
- Include all speakers and context (i.e., adult/clinician, child/client)
- If using an electronic program, type transcript
- Make decisions about segmenting utterances
  - Consider using communication units (c-units)
- Make decisions about transcribing and coding based on information needed and conventions of the program that is being used
- Note errors and preliminary areas of concern
- Include information from transcript and analysis into evaluation reports



## Questions to Consider

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- What are the pros and cons for electronic programs?
- What are the strengths and limitations of electronic programs?



## Electronic Programs & Resources

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- SALT
- CHILDES/CLAN/CHAT
- CP
- LENA



## Systematic Analysis of Language Transcripts (SALT)

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- <http://www.saltsoftware.com/>
- Resources
- Demo with language sample
- Types of analysis
  - MLU
  - TTR
  - Others



## Child Language Data Exchange System (CHILDES)

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- Computerized Language Analysis (CLAN) program
- Data transcribed in CHAT format
- <http://chilides.psy.cmu.edu/>
- Resources



## Computerized Profiling (CP)

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- <http://www.computerizedprofiling.org/>
- Language samples transcribed orthographically
- Speech/Phonological samples transcribed phonetically
- Resources



## LENA Language Assessment

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- <http://www.lenafoundation.org/DataServices/LenaLanguageAssessment.aspx>
- Specifically for collecting and analyzing recordings of children ages 2 months to 48 months
- Types of analysis:
  - Adult Words report
  - Conversational Turns report
  - Audio Environment Report

Revisit question...answers may include...

**What are the pros/strengths and cons/weaknesses for electronic programs?**

◦ Pro/strengths

- Systematic in coding (learn the rules)
- Comparison across language samples and use of databases
- Accurate at number crunching (math)
- Speed of analysis
- Flexible uses

◦ Cons/weaknesses

- Time involved in learning coding
- SLP still has to do the transcription and coding
- Program is not “smarter” than the person who enters the data
- Cost (for some programs)

## Suggestions for Getting Started

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- Explore websites and look at resources available
- Consider needs of your students, building, district, agency
- Select a program
- Learn the conventions and coding
- Practice using resources available
- Try with your own language samples



## Conclusion/Questions

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- Contact information:

- Jennifer Garrett

[jennifer.garrett@uni.edu](mailto:jennifer.garrett@uni.edu)

University of Northern Iowa

234 Communication Arts Center, Cedar  
Falls, IA 50614

(319) 273-3703