**Fishing is not wrestling: Neural correlates of the verb instrumentality effect**

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Previous clinical research has revealed the positive effect of instrumentality on verb retrieval and access in individuals with aphasia, both fluent and non-fluent (Malyutina, Iskra, Sevan, & Dragoy, in press). Performance on instrumental verbs referring to actions for which an instrument (not being a body part) is required (e.g. to cut) is more accurate as compared to non-instrumental verbs for which a tool is not obligatory (e.g. to tie). This effect was attributed to richer conceptual representations of instrumental verbs facilitating concept-lemma mapping (Breedin, Boronat, Saffran, & Shipley, 1999). Seeking for the neural correlates of the difference between instrumental and non-instrumental verbs, we investigated the effect of verb instrumentality on BOLD signal in neurologically intact individuals without language impairment. Seventeen German speakers (9 female, M = 33.4 years) performed a noun-verb matching task with instrumental and non-instrumental verbs in a block design fMRI paradigm. A verb (e.g. to cut) and two nouns (e.g. bread and blood) were presented in a triangular array; participants were required to choose the appropriate object for the verb by pressing a button. Groups of verbs and pairs of nouns were balanced on frequency and length; appropriateness of objects was tested in a preliminary questionnaire; instrumental and non-instrumental verbs did not differ in imageability and the degree of association between a verb and a matching noun. The semantic category of the verb and both deep semantic processing and sequential binding of a verb with a noun was insured by the task used. Imaging was performed on a 1.5-T Siemens Avanto scanner. The obtained data were analyzed in SPM8. The results revealed that, in neurologically intact individuals, processing non-instrumental verbs requires extra neural resources as compared to processing instrumental verbs. Those resources involve both frontal and temporal language-related areas of the left hemisphere. These areas are usually compromised in brain-damaged individuals with aphasia resulting in deteriorated performance on non-instrumental verbs. An additional implication of the study is related to the beneficial impact of instrumentality on both lexical-semantic access and sequential binding operations associated with the temporal and frontal networks of the left hemisphere correspondingly. Acknowledgments: this research was implemented as a part of the Basic Research Program of the National Research University Higher School of Economics.