




Welcome

Hi, I am Amanda McGuinness, Autistic Education & Visual Communication Specialist.

I am the creator of Auti - who educates on Autistic lived experiences.

Thank you for your support. 

Connect



Hi I am Auti, it is nice to meet you. 



Gestalt Language Processing

The term “**gestalt language processing**” also referred to as “**gestalt language acquisition**” is a process of language development wherein an individual develops (produces and understands) language in:

- **word(s)**
- **phrase(s)**
- **complete sentence(s)**

that they’ve heard from:

- **caregivers**
- **family/friends,**
- **media (ex. Youtube / Cartoons)**
- **their social environment.**

Gestalt language processing is a **natural way to develop language.**

GLPs **follow predictable stages in their language development.**

These stages eventually lead to original, flexible language.

This form of language development is particularly **prevalent in the Autistic population.**

Gestalt Language Processing Stages

www.littlepuddins.ie

Gestalts

- 1 Communicators use language heard in one situation, and use it in another.
Language can be acquired from parents - peers - media - songs - stories - sentences - scripts.

Mitigated Gestalts

- 2 Communicators use gestalts from their stage 1 repertoire, they can break the gestalts down into smaller parts and combine them in new ways.

Isolation & Combination of Single Words

- 3 Communicators isolate single words from their stage 1 & 2 gestalts and combine these newly isolated single words into two word phrases without grammar.

Self-generated phrases and simple sentences

- 4 Communicators create unique sentences through experimentation of unique word combinations and emergent grammar.

Self-generated sentences & grammar

- 5&6 Communicators create unique basic sentences with emergent advanced grammar moving towards eventually using sophisticated sentences with advanced grammar.

Identifying Gestalt Language Processors

May use scripts/echolalia

May repeat lines from movies, shows, videos

May play back the same episode or part of an episode over and over

May repeat questions instead of answer them

May have a flair for music and song

Language may be rich in intonation

May appear stuck using single words

May know their alphabet, numbers, days of the week, months of the year, seasons, colors at an early age, typically learned in songs

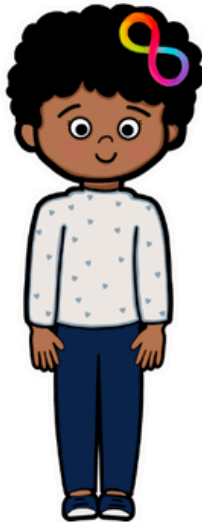
May be Autistic and/or Hyperlexic

May speak in the third person

May sound as though they are "fast" forwarding through language when speaking and it can be difficult to decipher what they are saying

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Gestalt Language Processing



"wheels on the bus go round and round"

Gestalt Language

- **Intonation Babies**
- **Single word production comes at a later stage of language development**
- **May produce long strings of seemingly unintelligible sentences**
- **Learn language by using "chunks" "scripts" before speaking in words**
- **Language used has a rich intonation**
- **Larger groups of words hold meaning**
- **May get stuck at single words**
- **Language may appear grammatically sophisticated**
- **Not all GLPs are Autistic BUT many Autistic people are GLPs**
- **Language use may be situational**
- **Larger groups of words hold meaning**



"Wheels on the bus!"





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