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Information

Discussion

Intonation in Spanish declaratives : differences between lab speech and spontaneous speech

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Abstract: The present study compares the intonation of Spanish declarative utterances in lab speech and spontaneous speech. Most studies of Spanish intonation have used lab speech, collected in an experimental setting and often scripted. This allows the researcher to control many factors, but the results cannot be assumed to be representative of spontaneous speech. The present study takes the most characteristic traits of the intonation of declarative sentences in Spanish lab speech and examines whether the same traits exist in spontaneous speech. It is shown that there are notable differences between the intonation of Spanish declaratives in lab speech and spontaneous speech. While some of the differences are minor, others are quite significant. Differences of one degree or another exist in the areas of the presence of F0 rises through stressed syllables, F0 peak alignment, downstepping, final lowering and deaccenting.

Genre/form: Article

Keywords: intonation ; Spanish ; pitch ; F0 ; downstepping ; final lowering ; deaccenting ; spontaneous ; speech ; lab speech.

Published in: *Catalan Journal of Linguistics*. Bellaterra : Servei de Publicacions de la Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. V. 2 (2003), p. 115-131 ISSN 1695-6885



Record created 2006-03-13, last modified 2008-11-14

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