

Part 1

Introduction

Part 1 (Chaps. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5) introduces the theoretical and methodological foundations of the lexical facility account. Chapter 1 introduces the vocabulary size research program, including the frequency-based tests of vocabulary knowledge that are used to estimate second language (L2) vocabulary size in the individual user, which in turn has been related to differences in L2 performance. Chapter 2 then presents different types of vocabulary size tests, including the Vocabulary Levels Test (Nation 2013) and the Yes/No Test (Meara and Buxton 1987). Test assumptions and uses in testing and instruction are described and key findings surveyed. Research on the development of speed and consistency in L2 word recognition skill is examined in Chap. 3. The aims and methods of this research paradigm are then described, as are key research findings. These two independent lines of research provide the foundation for the lexical facility proposal introduced in Chap. 4, which sets out the rationale for combining the two dimensions and discusses the key issues related to this undertaking. Chapter 5 describes the Timed Yes/No Test, which is used in the studies in Part 2 that provide evidence for the lexical facility account.

References

- Meara, P., & Buxton, B. (1987). An alternative to multiple choice vocabulary tests. *Language Testing*, 4(2), 142–145.
- Nation, I. S. P. (2013). *Learning vocabulary in another language* (2nd ed.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press