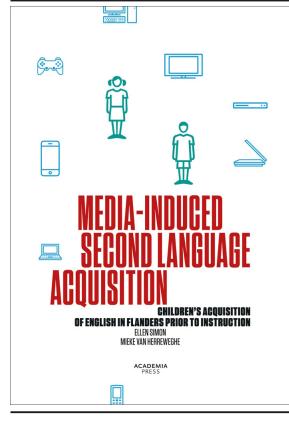


TITLE INFORMATION Tel: +1 212 645 1111

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Media-Induced Second

Language Acquisition
Children's Acquisition of English in Flanders Prior to Instruction

Ellen Simon

Mieke Van Herreweghe

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- Is there such a thing as media-induced second language acquisition?
- This volume questions to what extent this massive exposure to English actually leads to language acquisition by children prior to instruction of English in school

In many countries, including Belgium, English is pervasively present in public life: it is the number one foreign language in music, computergames and television programmes. As a result, children are extensively exposed to English long before they get their first English class in school. This volume questions to what extent this massive exposure to English actually leads to language acquisition by children prior to instruction of English in school. In other words: is there such a thing as media-induced second language acquisition?

Ellen Simon is Assistant Professor in Foreign Language Acquisition at Ghent University, where she also obtained her PhD in Linguistics. Her research interests include child second language acquisition, bilingual acquisition and phonology. She has published on these topics in Second Language Research, Journal of Child Language, Bilingualism: Language and Cognition and Journal of Phonetics. She is currently involved in a project on the intelligibility of non-native Dutch speech. Mieke Van Herreweghe is Senior Full Professor in the Department of Linguistics at Ghent University. She obtained a PhD in Linguistics from Ghent University in 1996 on the basis of a dissertation that dealt with the syntactic competence in Dutch of Flemish deaf pupils. She has more than 20 years of experience in teaching English as a second language at Ghent University and has supervised many Bachelor and Master papers in this subject. She has published on these topics in Folia Linguistica and Language and Speech.