TNL/TNL2 – Elicitation Protocol

Samples used to norm the TNL: Test of Narrative Language (Gillam & Pearson, 2004) and TNL-2: Test of Narrative Language – Second Edition (Gillam & Pearson, 2017)

Database	Context (Subgroup)	Age Range	# Samples	Location
TNL Narrative Samples	**Nar (TNL)**	**5;0 – 11;11**	**500**	**USA**
TNL2 Narrative Samples	**Nar (TNL2)**	**4;0 – 14;11**	**778**	**USA**

Elicitation Method

The elicitation format consists of children listening to an adult model of three types of stories, answering comprehension questions, and then producing a similar type of story. Examiners collected data on children's ability to tell stories in three formats: (1) a script-like story, (2) a story about five sequenced pictures, and (3) a fictional narrative based on a single picture. The examiner scripts and picture stimuli that were used to elicit the narratives are available in the Test of Narrative Language (Gillam & Pearson, 2004) and the Test of Narrative Language – Second Edition (Gillam & Pearson, 2017).

- **Task 1: McDonald's**

    - **TNL - Script Retell (no picture cues)**
      In the first narrative format, the examiner reads aloud a story about two children who go to McDonald's with their mother. Because no picture cues are provided, the child must rely on auditory memory to answer literal and inferential comprehension questions about the story. After answering the story comprehension questions, the child is asked to retell the entire McDonald's story. The child's retelling was transcribed.
    - **TNL2 - Script Retell (picture cues)**
      In the first narrative task, the examinee retells a McDonald's script about two children who go to McDonald's with their mother. The script-like story, told to the examinee prior to the production task, contains a number of events that children experience when they eat at a fast food restaurant. The examinee retells the story while looking at the single-picture cue.

- **Task 2: Late For School - Five Sequenced Pictures**
  The examiner shows the child a sequence of five pictures that illustrate the critical events in a single-episode story that the examiner tells. The story is about a child who creates a school project at home, falls, and breaks the project on the way to school, and then fixes the project when she gets to school. After reading the story to the child, the examiner asks the child to answer nine literal and inferential comprehension questions about the characters, events, and consequences in the story. The comprehension questions and answers were not transcribed. The examiner then shows the child a sequence of five new pictures that depict a sequence of events about a boy who is late for school. The child's oral story about the sequence of pictures was transcribed.

- **Task 3: Aliens - Single Picture**
  The examiner tells a multi-episode story that corresponds to a picture of two children who are looking at a treasure being guarded by a dragon. The examiner asks ten literal and inferential comprehension questions about the characters, events, problems, and consequences in the story. The comprehension questions and answers were not transcribed. The examiner then shows the child a picture of two children who witness a family of aliens walking out of a spaceship that has landed in a park. The child's oral story that corresponded to the picture of a fictional event was transcribed.

When selecting language samples from the database, you have the option of including all three stories or restricting the selection to a specific story by specifying one of the following subgroups:
- All 3 Stories - all three narrative story tasks
- McDonalds - the first narrative task only
- LateForSchool - the second narrative task only
- Aliens - the third narrative task only

Examiner's Role

Please refer to the TNL/TNL2 Examiner's Manual.

References

Gillam, R., Pearson, N., Test of Narrative Language (2004).

Gillam, R., Pearson, N., Test of Narrative Language, Second Edition (2017).