Enhancement of learning for children with phonological disorders. Judith A. Gierut, Dept. of Speech and Hearing Sciences, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, USA. [Full Paper Available on CD]

Children with functional phonological disorders warrant clinical treatment to accelerate their acquisition of the sound system. In this paper, I focus on the linguistic factors that converge to enhance phonological learning in treatment, with specific reference to segmental, featural and syllabic levels of structure. The primary finding to emerge is that treatment of more complex linguistic structures yields the greatest phonological gains for these children. Converging evidence from other populations further supports the relevance of linguistic complexity to learning.