



## Perceptual learning of speech produced by a speaker with Down Syndrome

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**Context**

Down Syndrome

- Genetic disease
  - Motor issues
  - Anatomic abnormalities
- Speech difficulties**
- Low intelligibility**

Kent &amp; Vorperian (2013) ; Bunton et al. (2007)

Perception ←→ Production

Dysarthric / DS speech ?

Borrie et al. (2015)

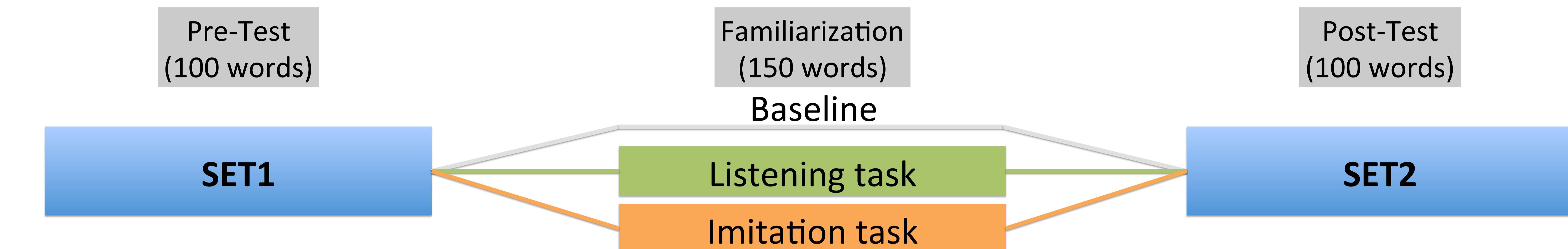
**How could intelligibility be improved?**

Perceptual Learning (PL)

- Quick
- Natural
- Already proved for accented or **dysarthric** speech

Familiarization task induces **PL efficiency****Listening task < Imitation task**

Adank et al. (2010) ; Borrie et al. (2012)

**Experimental design****Speaker**

1 young adult with Down Syndrome selected from a previous intelligibility test (&lt;70%)

**Stimuli**

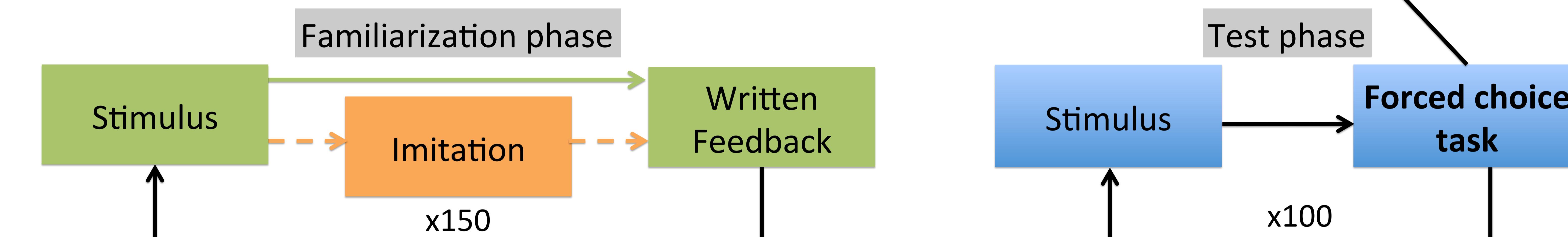
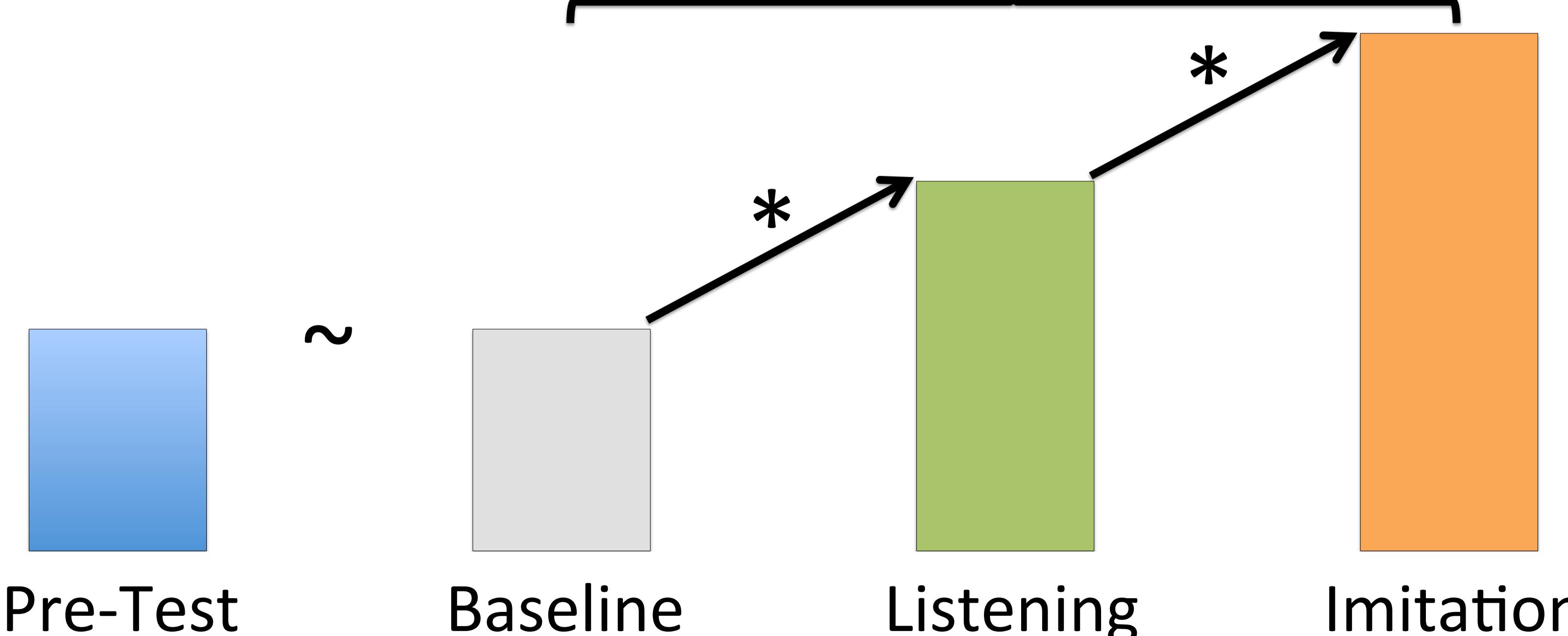
Total of 350 words selected from a French word database (New et al., 2001 – Lexique v.3.81)

**Familiarization set**

- ✓ Balance of phonemes occurrence

**Tests SET1/SET2**

- ✓ 20 phonological contrasts
- ✓ At least 3 minimal pairs

**Trials****Predictions****Post-Test results**

No improvement in Baseline

**Improvement for the Listening task**

- ✓ The participant should learn from the feedback how the speaker produces speech sounds relevant for French

**Stronger improvement for the Imitation task**

- ? **Attention** bias: double repetition (speaker and own)
- ? **Motor involvement**