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SEMANTIC AND SYNTACTIC PREDICTION IN READING AND STATISTICAL LEARNING: AN fMRI STUDY IN DYSLEXIA



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BACKGROUND

- The predictive brain has become a key concept in language research and a dominant theoretical framework for understanding how the brain works. Psycholinguistic and neuroimaging research highlights the importance of anticipatory mechanisms in language comprehension, language production, and reading.
- In addition, a growing number of studies have used statistical learning (SL) paradigms to investigate whether SL abilities can explain inter-individual differences in language processing and reading abilities.



 To focus specifically on the neural network underlying semantic and syntactic predictive processing in reading
To understand whether making semantic and syntactic predictions in reading relies on domain-general SL abilities AND whether people with reading impairments (dyslexia) show deficits in these domains.



Whole brain analysis 1

Semantic prediction (related – scrambled)

CT DYS

Syntactic prediction (related – scrambled)



Sequence learning (learned – random)



