

Leonie Speaking – One Year On

(Transcript, emagplus79 February 2018)

In *emagazine 79*, A Level Language teacher Gillian Thompson discusses her granddaughter Leonie's language development, aged 3 years, eight months.

The transcript of their conversation is included here. You can view the film clip of Gillian and Leonie talking together in emagClips.

Gillian's article discussing Leonie's language development aged 2 years, 8 months, ideas for how to analyse the transcript and the transcript itself are available in the *emagazine* Archive.

Transcript of Leonie (3;8) Speaking to Her Grandmother

Key

L= Leonie

G= Gill

= means overlap

() Time in seconds

At the table: Leonie is variously making something out of playdoh, looking at a book and answering questions on some of Jean Berko's pictures.

L: Look. Wat..wat (watch?) (Taking top off playdoh with her teeth) 1
G: Oooh
L: (Laughs)
G: Are we going to do some playdoh?
L: I can do my one. (Tries and fails to take other top off with her teeth) 5
L: (Making a face) [indistinct] teeth.
G: Oooh is it a bit hard? Shall we make something out of this one?
L: Ha...ha ...ha!
G: Hmmmm
L: Ah! 10
G: Oh you did it. Well done. Right what are you going to make?
L: I gonna make a heart
G: A heart? (showing her some shape cutters.) Which one's the heart?
L: That one.
G: Okay 15
L: A heart part I'm doing purple and pink.
G: Okay. And who's the heart going to be for?
L: Um. Mummy.
G: Mummy? What does a heart mean?
L: Er..I love you Mummy. 20

G: I love you Mummy. (Leonie nods.)Does it?
L: (indistinct.) ...a heart. With some pink and purple. (Squashing playdoh)
G: What are you having to do? To make your heart?
L: Er...(indistinct.) Get it....
G: What are you doing now? 25
L: Making it have...have... Da dah!
G: What have you done? (5) Tell Grandma what you've done.
L: A heart.
G: Lovely. What shall we do with that?
L: Ooh look at the bottom. 30
G: Ah! What's it like?
L: Soft
G: It's soft. Is it soft? (feeling the playdoh.) Is it rough?
L: No
G: What is it? 35
L: It's bumpy
G: It's bumpy is it?
L: Yeah look (patting playdoh)
G: Oh it's bumpy on the top. What is it on the bottom? Can you put your hand along it?
L: (Feeling the playdoh.) It's soft. 40
G: Is it soft? Is it smooth as well?
L: Yes smooth.
G: Lovely, isn't it? Are you going to take that home for Mummy?
L: (Nods.)
G: Okay. Can you ..can you tell Grandma a story now? (Tidying away playdoh and 45
taking out book.) Let's put this away. Can we have a look at the story.
L: Yeah.
G: What story's this? (Showing Cinderella book.)
L: Er...
G: Mmmm? 50
L: Er.. Belle
G: What is it? Belle? Oh she's called Belle is she? Now I want you to tell Grandma
the story. So can you tell me who these people are? (pointing at picture.)
L: Er.. a old woman
G: An old woman? 55
L: (nods)
G: And who are these two (pointing at ugly sisters.)
L: Er.. the sisters
G: Are they pretty sisters?
L: No (shakes head vehemently) 60
G: What are they?
L: Dere mother sisters
G: Are they ugly sisters?
L: ugerly sisters
G: Ugly sisters. And who's this? (pointing at picture of Cinderella.) 65
L: Er...
G: What's her name?

L: Belle

G: It's ...she's called Belle is she? And what's she doing? 70

L: Er . Cleaning all the stuff.

G: And she sleeps in a ... up in the loft. Doesn't she? Ah? And then....
(pointing at new picture.) What happens?

L: Er..

G: (pointing at picture.) what's this? 75

L: A stepmother

G: And what does the stepmother say?

L: Er... Think I'll go to the ball

G: Can't go to the ball! Why can't she go to the ball?

L: Because she can't

G: Because she can't. But who *can* go to the ball? (pointing at new picture) 80

L: A ugerly sister.

G: The ugly sisters. So what does Cinderella do?

L: er..a fairy mother

G: A fairy mother?

L: (nods) 85

G: And who's she? Which one's the fairy Godmother?

L: (Points at picture.) That one

G: And what does she say to Cinderella?

L: Er.....

G: Does she say she can't go to the ball? 90

L: Yeah

G: Does she? Ah! What does she do here?

L: [Indistinct]

G: What happens?

L: Get a wand 95

G: She gets her wand and she says....

L: abracadabra

G: And...what happens to Cinderella?

L: Go to a ball

G: She does doesn't she? And what does the fairy godmother tell her about the time? 100

L: Er...

G: What does she say?

L: It's not...

G: You must come back...

L: To..... 105

G: You must come back before the clock strikes

L: Ten

G: Twelve

L: Twelve

G: And she rushes down the stairs and what does she leave behind? 110

L: A shoe

G: Oh! And what happens?

L: It...er it not her shoe?

G: It's not her shoe?

L: Not her shoe 115

G: Well it's a magic shoe isn't it? So the handsome prince wants to find Cinderella so he goes through the whole country and everybody tries on the shoe. (Points to picture.) Who are these people trying on the shoe?

L: Um ...the stepmother.

G: Yes and the ... (points to picture.) 120

L: Ugerly sisters

G: Yes and do they fit the shoe?

L: No

G: So who fits the shoe?

L: (Points to picture.) That one. 125

G: That one.

L: Look=

G: =Is she called Cinderella?

L: Yes=

G: Yes = 130

L: Look

G: She's got it on her foot, hasn't she? And what happens in the end?

L: Er...they get married

G: And live happily ever after?

L: (nods) 135

G: Oh that's good. Now, Grandma wants to ask you some questions. Is that alright?

L: Yeah

G: So this is a little creature called a wug. (Pointing to one of Jean Berko's pictures which also appears as insert on screen.) Okay? This is a wug. Now there is another one. There are two of them. There are two... (rising intonation). 140

L: Two... two...two...

G: What were they called?

L: Er.....

G: Shall I tell you again?

L: (nods) 145

G: Listen. This is a wug.. (points to picture)

L: Wug

G: Wug. One two...

L: Three wugs

G: (Laughs) Two wugs, weren't there? Alright. Let's have a look at another one. This is a kazh. 150

That's a kazh. Okay. This is one kazh. Now there are two of them.

There are two... (rising intonation).

L: Kazhs

G: (Laughs) Good girl. Now this is a man who knows how to rick. He is ricking. 155

(Mimes 'ricking'.) That's ricking. Okay. Yesterday he did the same thing.

What did he do yesterday? Yesterday he.... (rising intonation)

L: smiles

G: (Laughs) so today he's ricking. Yesterday he.... (rising intonation).

L: Did rick

G: He did rick. Oh good girl. Okay. Now. Here's another wug (points to Jean Berko picture of 'wug' – inserted on screen.) This is a very tiny wug. What would you 160

call a very, very tiny wug?

L: Er a wug

G: You'd call it a wug, would you? This wug lives in a house. What would you call a house that a wug lives in? What do we call it? What's a house that a wug lives in? 165

L: er....er....

G: What would you call his house? This little wug? What would you call his house? The little wug says I'm going home to my (rising intonation)

L: house

G: to my house. Yeah. Er now. This.... We can't see a lot of this. This is a dog with quirks on him(shows Leonie Jean Berko's picture, inserted into bottom right hand corner of screen.) 170
That's a little doggie and he's got quirks on him. He's all covered with quirks. What kind of dog is he? He's a (rising intonation)

L: dog

G: (Laughs). What would you call a dog with quirks all over him? 175

L: Er...er

G: Shall I say it again? Okay. You listening? This is a dog with quirks on him. He's all covered with quirks. What kind of dog is he? He's a (rising intonation) (3) Do you know? What might we call him? Don't know? Let's do...shall we do one more?

Erm... Let's do....this one. This is a lun. That's one. That's a lun. 180
Now there is another one. There are two of them. There are two (rising intonation)

L: ones

G: Luns yes. Well done. And let's just do...shall we just do this one ?

L: Yeah

G: This is a man who knows how to spow. He is spowing. He did the same thing 185
yesterday. What did he do yesterday? Yesterday he (rising intonation).

L: er...did spow.

G: He *did* spow! Right. Now what's Grandma got in here? There might be something here [indistinct] (Puts two plates on the table. One with one piece of chocolate on; the other with two pieces of chocolate on.) Look. Now listen. You could have one 190
piece of chocolate now or you could have two pieces of chocolate if you waited a little while. And if you had them in ten minutes. Would you like one now (points to plate with one piece of chocolate on) or two later? (points to plate with two pieces of chocolate on.)

L: I'll have one now. 195

G: You'll have one now. Okay then. Is that nice?

L: Hmmmm.

G: Hmmmm?

L: They're a bit crunchy

G: They're a bit crunchy? What does chocolate taste like? 200

L: Um.....chocolate

G: (Laughs) What kind of words would you use for chocolate?

L: Look. Chocolate.

G: Ohhh! Is it ...yucky?

L: er... no ... 205

G: Is it... soft?

L: No

G: What is it?

L: It's yummy?

G: Yummy! (Laughs) shall we do our rhyming game? 210

L: Mmmm (nods)

G: If Grandma says 'yummy', what rhymes with 'yummy'?

L: Mmm. Yummy..tummy.

G: Tummy? Yes. And if Grandma said 'flower', what rhymes with 'flower'?

L: Er, power? 215

G: Power? Yeah.

L: No, tower.

G: Tower! That's a good one. And if Grandma says 'house', what rhymes with 'house'?

L: Pouse? Pow... 220

G: What's a little (mimes little creature running along table.) The little thing that runs along that's furry.

L: A dog?

G: (Laughs) Does it rhyme with 'house'?

L: No 225

G: (Laughs) What rhymes with house?

L: Um couse.

G: Couse? House?

L: Yeah.

G: Mmm does, doesn't it? I wonder if you could tell me, Leonie, when you went to Sienna's house on Sunday, with Sienna's mummy and daddy, what did you do? 230

L: Yeah.

G: Can you tell me about it?

L: Um (rolling playdoh)

G: What did you do at Sienna's house? 235

L: (Holding up playdoh) do you wanna roll?

G: I'll have a roll (picks up playdoh) whilst you talk to me. What did you do with Sienna?

L: You're on a rolling thing.

G: Did you go to the park? 240

L: Er, no.

G: What did you do at Sienna's house?

L: Er.. I did go in my jamas (pyjamas).

G: Went in your jamas?

L: Yeah, and go to Mummy's house. 245

G: Okay.

L: In a car.

G: Mmhmm. And what did you have to eat at Sienna's house?

L: Um.. you know we did make. (whispering.) We did make. I will tell you. 250
(Whispers in Gill's ear.)

G: What did you make? (whispering)

L: (whispering) Gingerbread mans

G: Oh! Gingerbread mans. Oh were they lovely.?

L: (Whispering) Yeah.

G: Did you eat them? 255

L: (Whispering) Yeah.
G: Were they all yummy?
L: (Whispering) Yeah.
G: Did you take one home?
L: (Whispering) Yeah. 260
G: Lovely
L: Whispering [indistinct]
G: Did Corinne have one?
L: No
G: Why are you whispering? 265
L: Whispering [indistinct]
G: (Laughs)

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