



A STUDY ON THE FUNCTIONS OF LANGUAGE AMONG PRE-SCHOOLERS OF NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

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This study aimed to study the functions of language among the pre-schoolers of the university. Specifically, it attempted to (1) identify and describe the forms and functions of pre-schoolers' responses to their teacher during story-telling time, and (2) account for instances or situations out of which particular functions are used; the forms which express these functions; and the appropriateness of the forms and the functions expressed in relation to particular situations. It made use of actual recording which was scheduled with the teacher-in-charge of the pre-school department of the university. The entire classroom interaction was recorded.

The data show that the responses of the children manifest multiplicity of language functions that are further expressed in different grammatical forms. The responses were classified as (1) completion type, (2) elliptical type, (3) complete type, (4) interrogative type, and (5) repetitive type.

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