

separate-syntax vs. shared-syntax accounts

De Bot, 1992 – bilingual blueprint of the speaker

- conceptualiser – construction of a preverbal message
- language-specific formulators – grammatical and phonological encoding
- articulator – pronunciation

Ullman, 2001 – declarative/procedural model

- lexicon – declarative memory system
- L1 grammar – procedural memory system
- L2 grammar (not fully automatic) – both declarative and procedural memory systems

Hartsuiker et al., 2004 – bilingual lexicalist model

- conceptual level (conceptual information)
- lemma level (combinatorial, category, featural information)
- word-form level

present perfect vs. passé composé

Do French-English bilinguals have a single, language-independent representation of *present perfect* and *passé composé*, or two separate ones?

auxiliary verb + past participle
 Mary has **written** a book.
 Marie a **écrit** un livre.

Usage differences

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| present perfect | past simple |
| • recent past | • distant past |
| • results of past events | • no link to the present |

passé composé

Auxiliary verbs

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| English | French |
| have | avoir 'have' – unergative verbs |
| Mary <i>has written</i> a book. | Marie <i>a écrit</i> un livre. |
| Mary <i>has left</i> . | être 'be' – unaccusative verbs |
| | Marie <i>est sortie</i> . |

cross-linguistic syntactic priming

cross-linguistic syntactic priming – more frequent production of a sentence with a given syntactic construction in one language (e.g., *The book has been read*) following the exposure to the equivalent version of the construction in a different language (e.g., *La lettre a été écrite*)

Stimuli

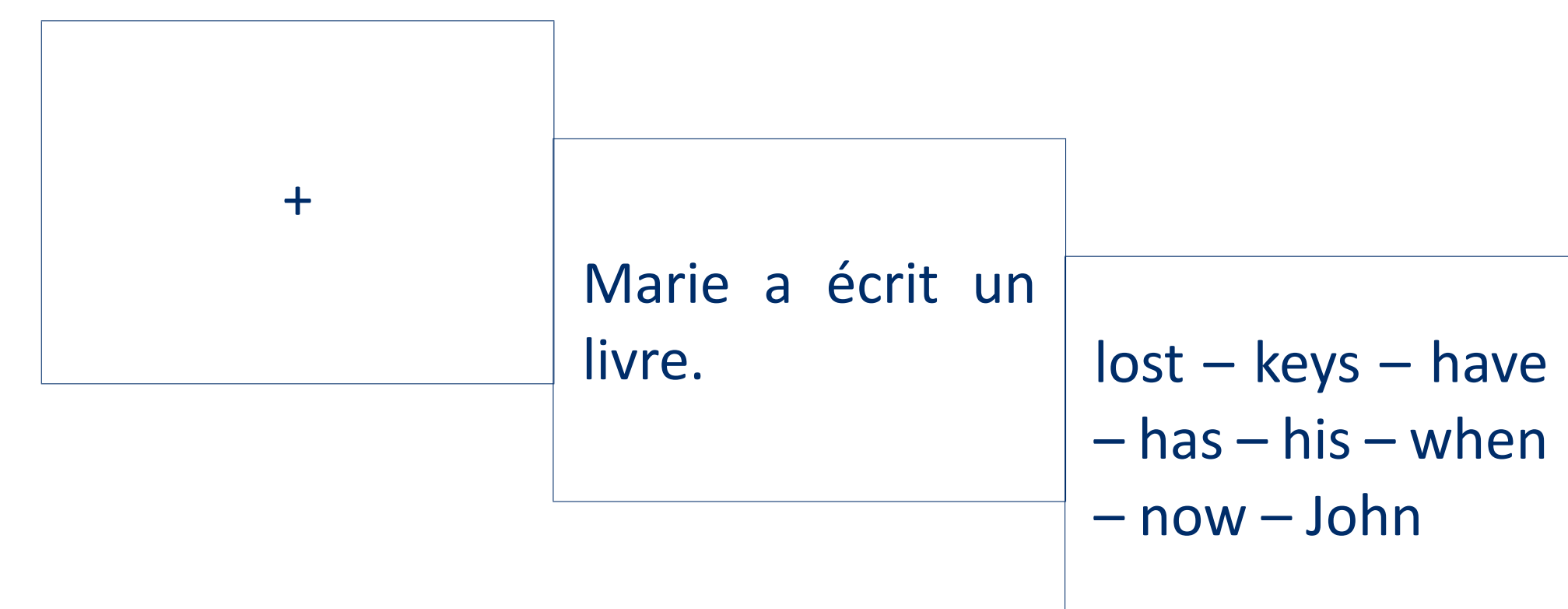
1. experimental condition

- prime – sentence in French in *passé composé*
Marie a écrit un livre
- target – words enabling for the formation of a sentence in English in both *present perfect* and *past simple*
John – has – lost – his – keys
+ additional words not fitting the sentence

2. baseline condition

- prime – noun phrase in French
le livre de Marie 'Mary's book'
- target – formed on the same principle as in the experimental condition

Procedure



Hypothesis

more *present perfect* sentences in the experimental condition (after a *passé composé* prime) as compared to the baseline condition (after a noun phrase prime)

Rapid Parallel Visual Presentation

sentence superiority effect – more successful memorisation of grammatically correct sequences of words as compared to the same words presented in a random order

Stimuli

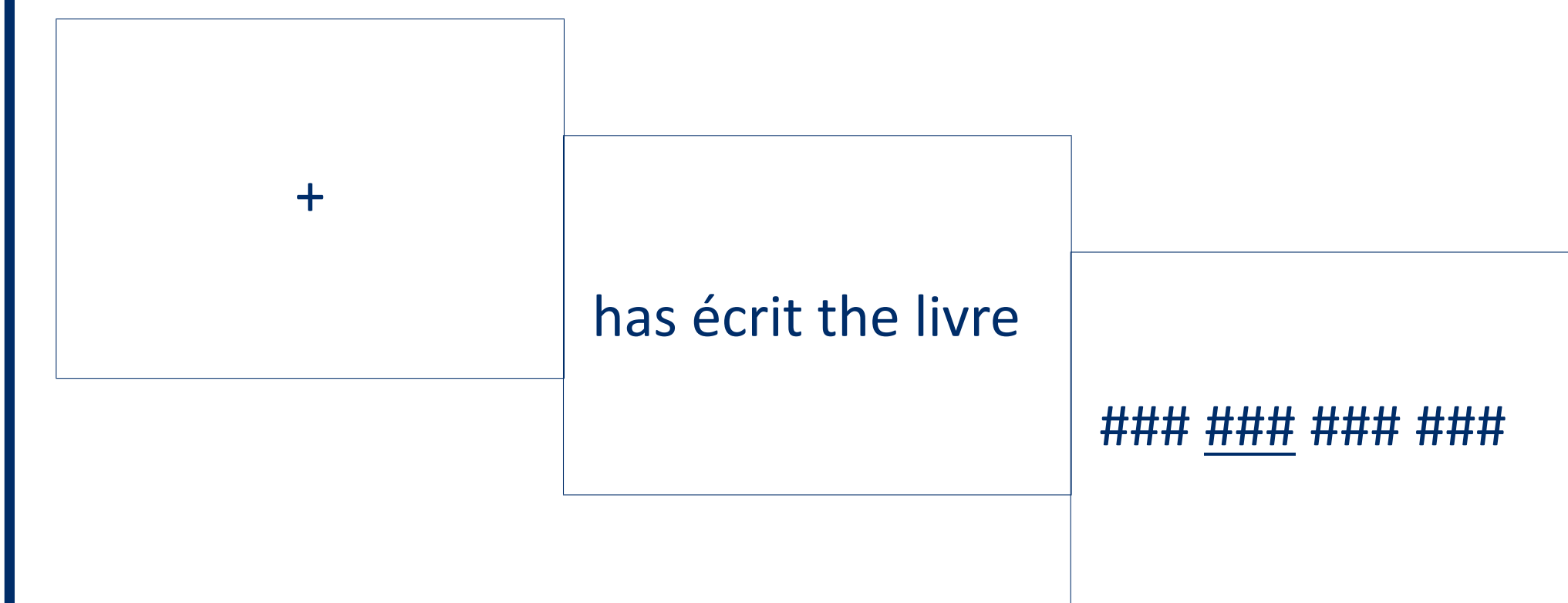
1. experimental condition

- convergent
has écrit the livre 'has written the book'
- divergent
mes friends sont arrived 'my friends are arrived'

2. baseline condition

- convergent
the écrit has livre 'the written has book'
- divergent
mes arrived sont friends 'my arrived are friends'

Procedure



Hypothesis

bilingual sentence superiority effect
 greater accuracy of recall for correct-order sequences (experimental condition) as compared to random-order sequences (baseline condition), regardless of auxiliary verb differences

eye-tracking

eye-mind hypothesis – cognitive processes linked to the focus of human eyes (e.g., longer fixations for difficult words, more regressions for ambiguous sentences)

Stimuli

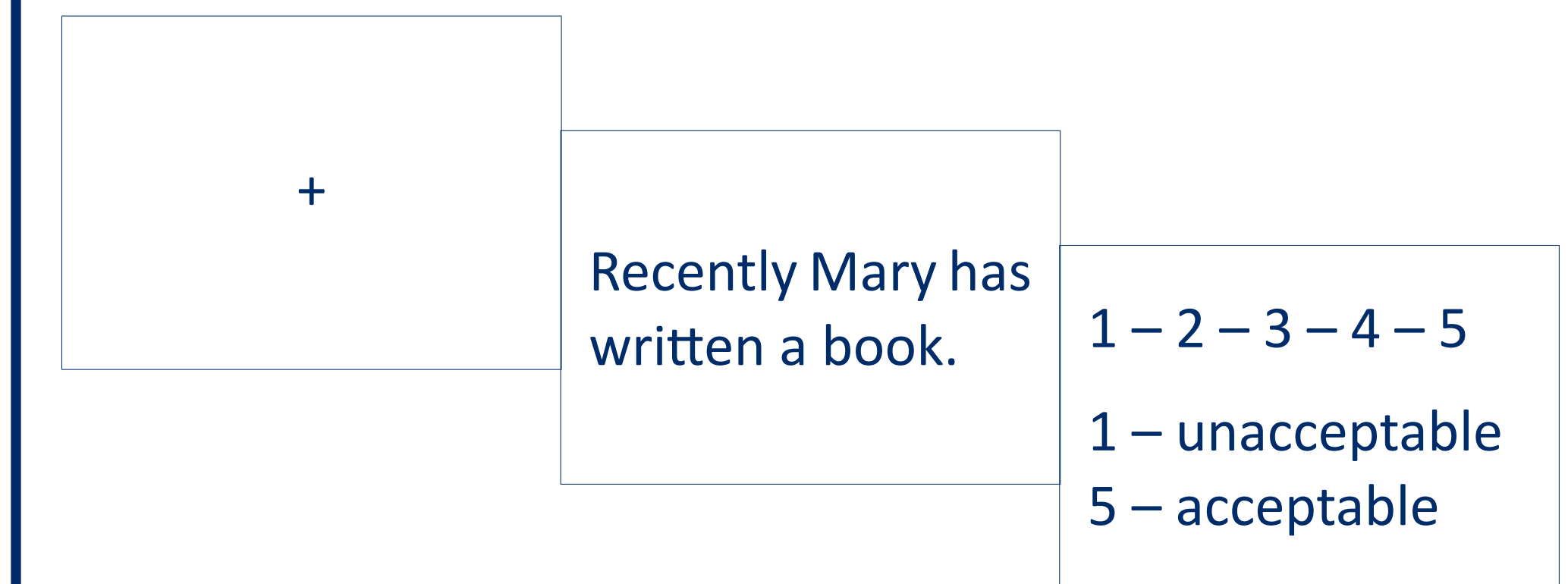
1. convergent condition

Recently Mary has written a book.
 (Récemment Marie a écrit un livre.)

2. divergent condition

**Last year Mary has written a book.*
 (L'année dernière Marie a écrit un livre.)

Procedure



Hypotheses

1. eye movements – convergent condition

shorter fixations and fewer regressions for French-English bilinguals (facilitation) than for Polish-English bilinguals

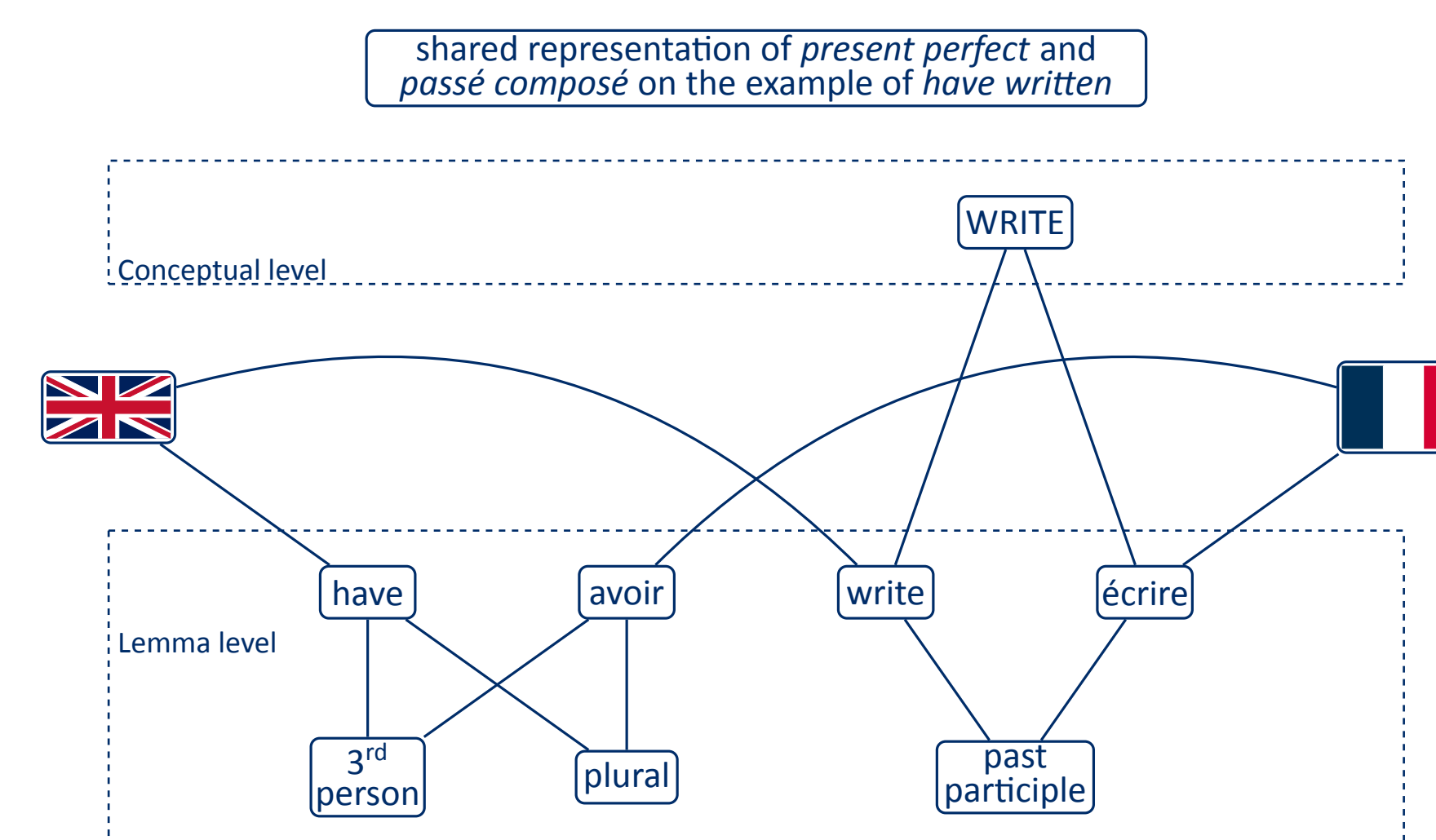
2. eye movements – divergent condition

longer fixations and more regressions for French-English bilinguals (interference) than for Polish-English bilinguals

3. acceptability judgements – divergent condition

higher ratings for French-English bilinguals (interference) than for Polish-English bilinguals

present perfect & passé composé within bilingual lexicalist model (Hartsuiker et al., 2004)



references

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