

On the use of *staan* ('stand'), *liggen* ('lie') and *zitten* ('sit') by French-speaking learners of Dutch. Report on an elicitation study

Julien Perrez (Facultés universitaires Saint-Louis)
Maarten Lemmens (Université Lille3, UMR 8167)

AFLiCo_IV

Université Lyon 2, 24-27 may 2011

Introduction

- **Larger research project:**
 - Location verb project (Lemmens 2005)
 - Cross-linguistic comparison of static location (Dutch, English, Swedish, French)
 - Extension to L2 (part of ANR-DFG)
- **Prestudy:**
 - Quantitative and qualitative study of use of *staan*, *liggen* and *zitten* by French-speaking learners of Dutch
- **Next step**
 - Elicited narrations (cf. L1)

STRUCTURE

- Background
- Elicitation study
 - Picture description
 - Quantitative analysis
 - Qualitative analysis

Typological background

- Tricky matter for French-speaking learners
 - Even at a high level of FL proficiency

En de schoenen?? zijn euh fin staan euh ja, ook op het grond [PPN09-0428]

in de vitrine staat veel, non ligt veel schoenen om te exposeert [PPN13-0671]

e eerste is, euh ligt euh op de <GESTURE: wijst naar links> linkse hoek van de foto. Ja, ik zeg ligt maar dat kan ook staat zijn [PPN14-0692]

Twee andere klanten zijn, zitten, fin euh non, staan voor de comptoir [PPN-0]

FRENCH	DUTCH
<p>- Posture poor language</p> <p>- Neutral existence verbs (<i>être, se trouver</i>)</p> <p>- Verb-framed language (Talmy 2000)</p> <p>=> verb = path</p> <p>=> satellite = manner of motion</p> <p><i>La bouteille entra dans la grotte (en flottant)</i> <i>The bottle entered the cave (floating)</i> (Lemmens 2005)</p> <p>- Type I language (Levinson & Ameka 2007)</p>	<p>- Posture rich language</p> <p>- Posture verbs</p> <p>- Satellite-framed language (Talmy 2000)</p> <p>=> verb = manner of motion</p> <p>=> satellite: path</p> <p><i>De fles dreef de grot in</i> <i>The bottle floated into the cave</i> (Lemmens 2005)</p> <p>- Type II language (Levinson & Ameka 2007)</p>

Typological background

- Tricky matter for French-speaking learners
 - Even at a high level of FL proficiency
- Typological differences between French and Dutch
- 3 interrelated problems (cf. Lemmens 2002)
 - 1) Get accustomed to **using** a posture verb
=> **coding obligation**
 - 2) Decide **which** posture verb to use
=> **coding variation**
 - 3) Deal with the **metaphorical extensions**
=> **coding flexibility**

Background of this study

- Lemmens & Perrez (2010) > corpus study
- Use of *staan*, *liggen* & *zitten* by French-speaking learners
- Main observations
 - 1) Underuse of the posture verbs
 - 2) Error analysis: 2 main types of errors
 - **Posture verb confusion:** wrong posture verb chosen

Posture verb confusion

- *Staan* instead of *liggen*

- (1) *de landen die vlak bij de zee *staan ...* (DL2-S-0012)
the countries that stand close to the sea
- (2) *terwijl Gosselies ... verder van Charleroi *staat* (DL2-S-0114)
while Gosselies stands further away from Charleroi
- (3) *Daar *staat een beautycenter met sauna, bubbelbad en massages.*
(DL2-S-0158)
there stands a beauty centre with sauna, jacuzzi and massages
- (4) *De universiteit *staat in Luik en ik houd veel van deze stad* (DL2-S-0200)
the university stands in Liège and I love this city very much
Gosselies and Charleroi are two cities in the French speaking part of Belgium.

Background

- Lemmens & Perrez (2010) > corpus study
- Use of *staan*, *liggen* & *zitten* by French-speaking learners
- Main observations
 - 1) Underuse of the posture verbs
 - 2) Error analysis: 2 main types of errors
 - **Posture verb confusion:** wrong posture verb chosen
 - **Posture verb panic:** posture verb not possible in a given context

Qualitative analysis

- Overuse of posture verbs
 - Posture verb panic: using a posture verb where no such verb is allowed

*De vrouw *staat [is] een beetje wanhopig omdat ze wilde dat haar man de tuintrap verft (DL2-s-0205)*
'The woman stands a bit desperate because she wanted her husband to paint the gardensteps.'

Background

- Lemmens & Perrez (2010) > corpus study
- Use of *staan*, *liggen* & *zitten* by French-speaking learners
- Main observations
 - 1) Underuse of the posture verbs
 - 2) Error analysis: 2 main types of errors
 - **Posture verb confusion:** wrong posture verb chosen
 - **Posture verb panic:** posture verb not possible in a given context
 - 3) Error analysis: *staan* is the most frequent verb in the incorrect sentences

=> *staan* as default posture verb (// L1 frequency?)

Background

- Lemmens & Perrez (2010) > corpus study
- Use of *staan*, *liggen* & *zitten* by French-speaking learners characterized by
 - Negative transfer from L1
 - Underuse of PVs + (overuse of general verbs)
 - Posture verb confusion
 - Developmental patterns typical of the learner's interlanguage
 - Overuse of some posture verbs
 - Influence of frequency patterns of the target language
 - High frequency of *staan* in the incorrect sentences

Our study

- Use of posture verbs
- Elicited narrations > picture description task
- Larger research project
 - Native speakers of English
 - Native speakers of Dutch
 - Native speakers of French
 - French-speaking learners of English (L2)
 - French-speaking learners of Dutch

P1 > where are the clothes



P2 > shoes and boxes?



P3 > clothes and furniture



P4 > vegetables



P5 > meat?



Our study

- Subjects
 - 22 Belgian French-speaking adult learners of Dutch
 - University students (undergraduates)
- Goals
 - How do the learners linguistically encode these locations

Our study > coding

- Locational context
 - Figure
 - Ground
 - Satellite
 - Verb type
 - Verb
 - Verb satellite
 - Construction

Our study > coding

- Locational clauses
 - Figure
 - Ground
 - Satellite
 - **Verb type**
 - Verb
 - Verb satellite
 - **Construction**

Our study > coding

- **Verb type**
 - Neutral verbs
 - zijn 'be', zich bevinden 'find oneself'
 - Posture verbs
 - Staan 'stand', liggen 'lie', zitten 'sit' & hangen 'hang'
 - Dispositional verbs
 - Opruimen 'arrange', plooien 'fold', sorteren 'sort'
 - Perception verbs
 - Zien 'see'
 - Possessive verbs
 - Hebben 'have'

Our study > coding

- **Construction**

- Basic Locative Construction (BLC)
 - Figure located according to a ground by means of a verb
 - De kleren bevinden zich in de kast [PPN14-0703]
 - ‘The clothes find themselves in the closet’
 - Posture verb
 - Dus euh vlees hangt. [PPN20-0958]
 - ‘So euh meat is hanging’

Our study > coding

- **Construction**

- Basic Locative Construction (BLC)
- Presentational construction
 - Er zijn ook kleren in een grote doos [PPN02-068]
 - ‘There are also clothes in a big box’
 - Er staat ook een tafel en twee stoelen [PPN06-0282]
 - ‘There stands also cheese’

Our study > coding

- **Construction**
 - Basic Locative Construction (BLC)
 - Presentational construction
 - Perceptual construction
 - ik zie ook appels in een doos [PPN14-0692]
 - 'I see also apples in a box'

Our study > coding

- **Construction**
 - Basic Locative Construction (BLC)
 - Presentational construction
 - Perceptual construction
 - ik zie ook appels in een doos [PPN14-0744]
 - 'I see also apples in a box'
 - Possessive construction
 - Sommige mensen hebben euh ook schoenen in hand [PPN05-0236]
 - 'Some people have euh also shoes in hand'

Results

	TOTAL N	MEAN / SPEAKER	MIN	MAX
LEARNERS	920	41,8	22	70

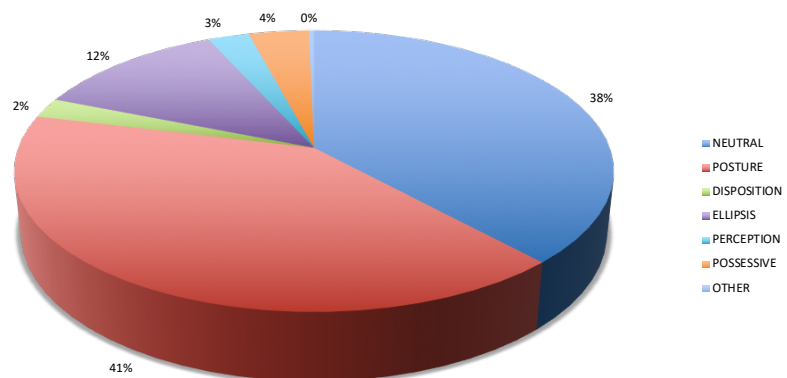
Results

	TOTAL N	MEAN / SPEAKER	MIN	MAX
LEARNERS	920	41,8	22	70
NATIVES	831	69,25	35	109

Results

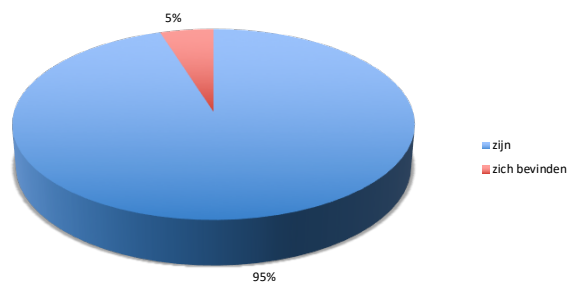
	TOTAL N	MEAN / SPEAKER	MIN	MAX
LEARNERS	920	41,8	22	70
NATIVES	831	69,25	35	109
FRENCH-L1	387	32,25		
ENGLISH-L1	417	34,75		

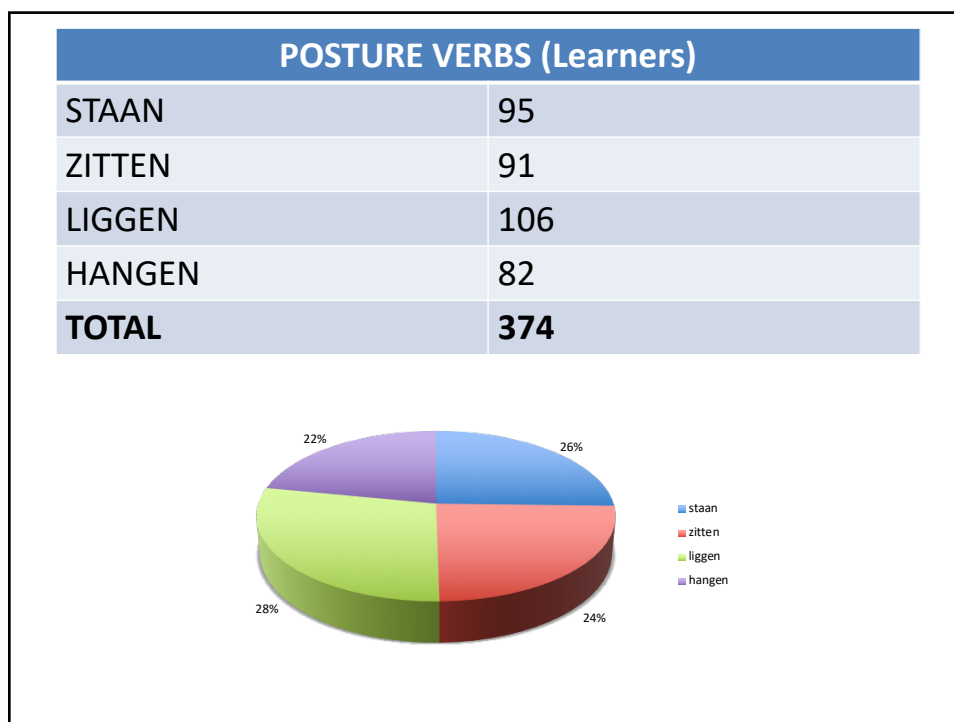
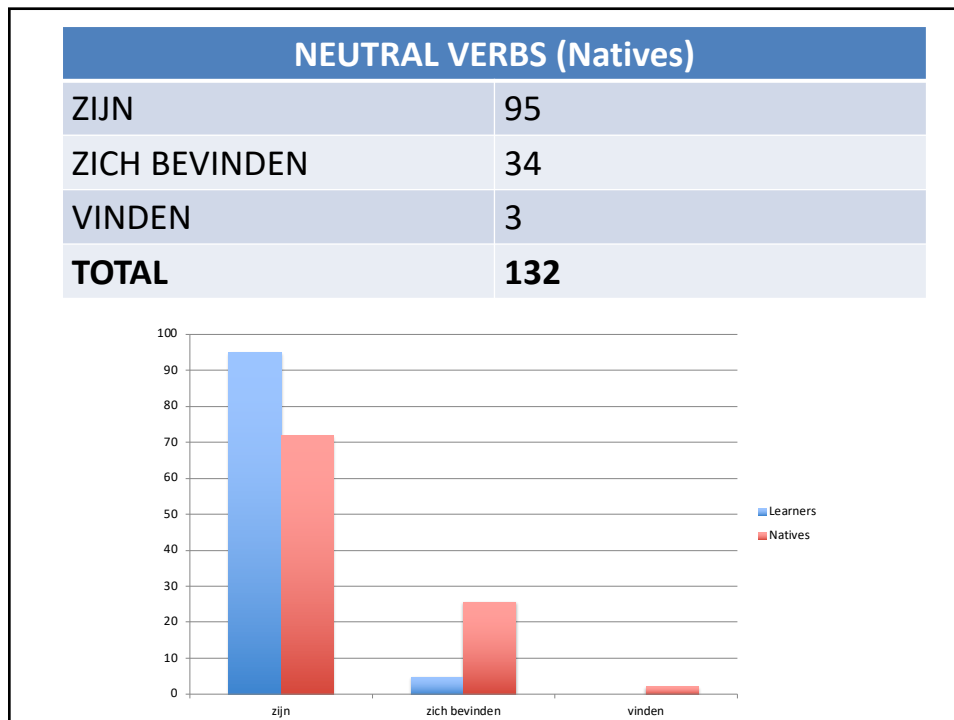
Learners > Verb types

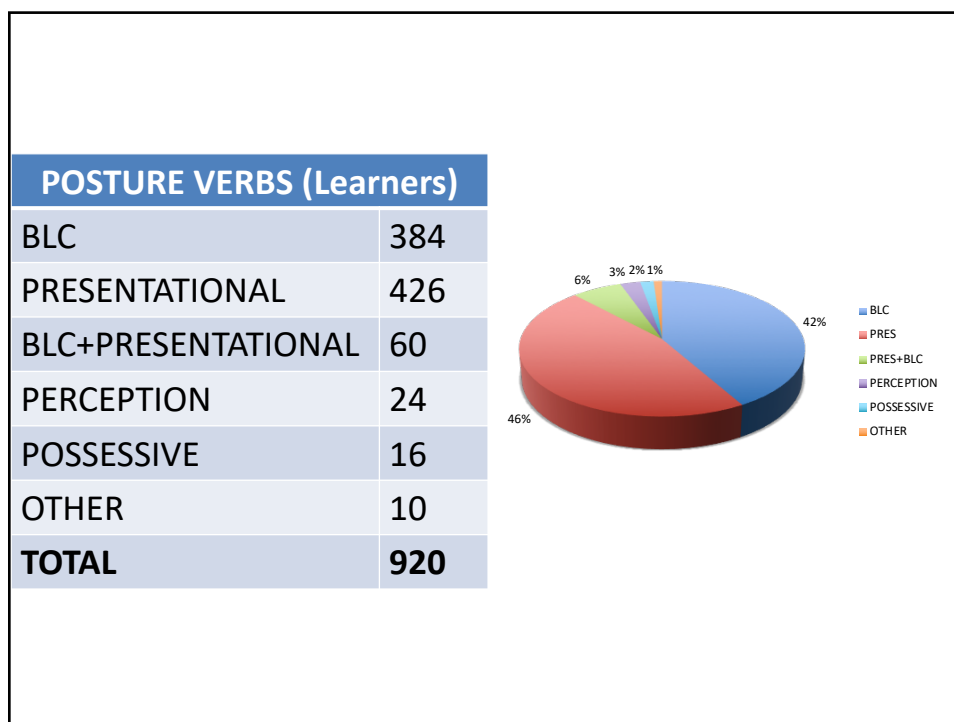
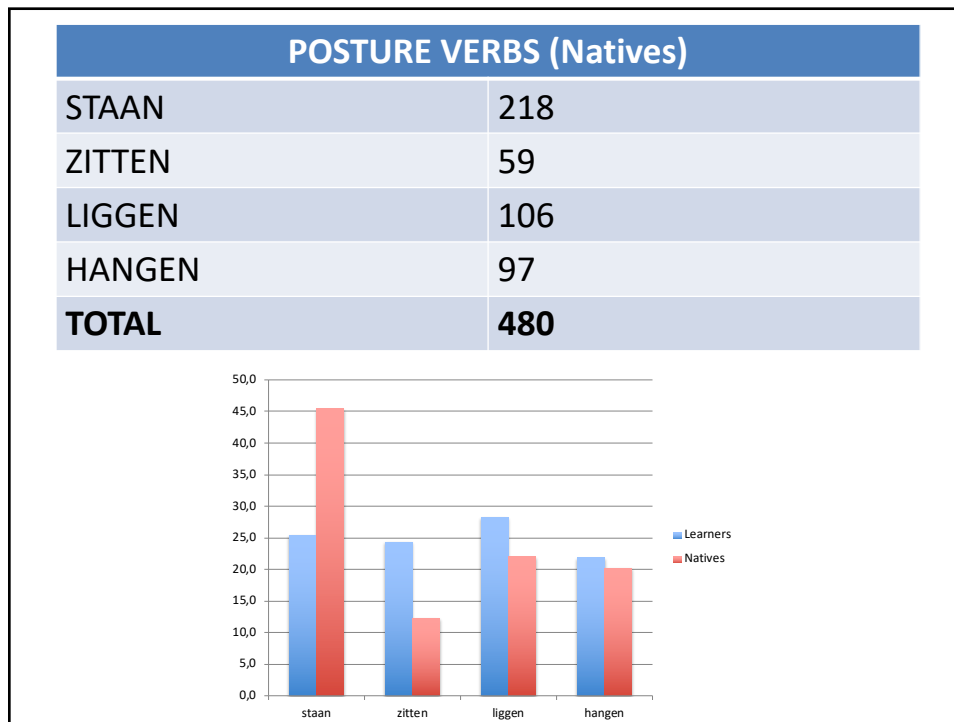


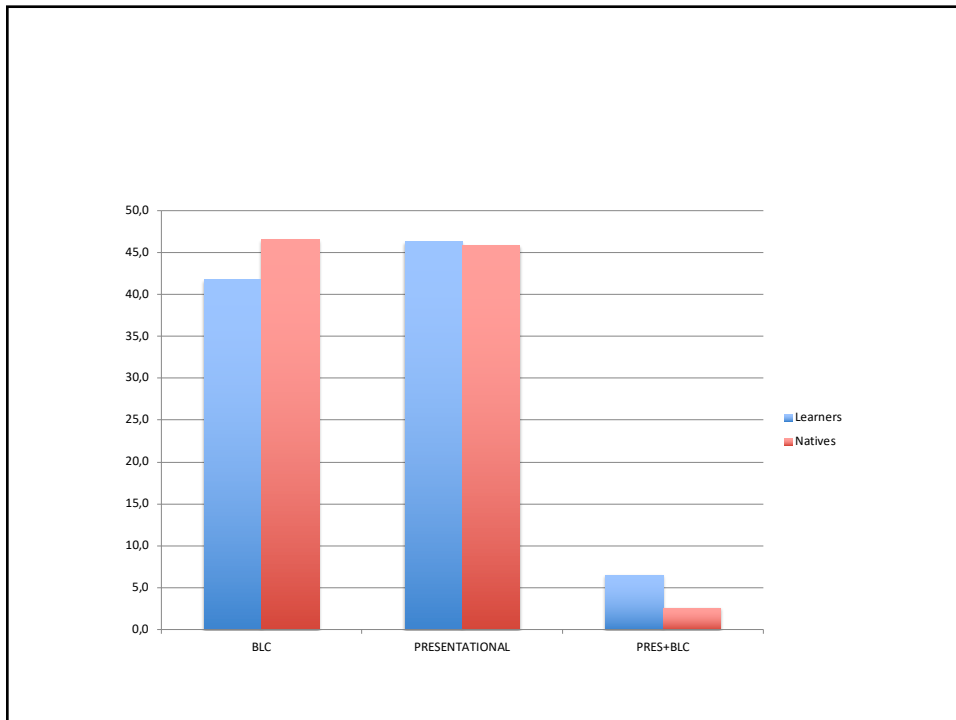
- Hier vergelijking met L1

NEUTRAL VERBS (Learners)	
ZIJN	332
ZICH BEVINDEN	17
TOTAL	349









FURTHER WORK

- Level of L2 proficiency