**Exploring Standard Australian English grammar acquisition for students attending a remote Northern Territory primary school**

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Grammar acquisition includes the ability to understand and use Standard Australian English (SAE) grammatical morphemes. These might include regular past tense (-ed), plural (-s) and present tense (-ing). Developing an understanding of the sequence which remote students acquire the morphemes of SAE will support the teaching and learning of English to students in remote schools.

This project included a language assessment of 57 students at a remote Northern Territory Primary School. Data was used to inform teachers of language trends in the school and help support explicit instruction of Standard Australian English grammar.

The next stage of this project is to develop and trial an app which teachers can use to assess their students’ developmental acquisition of Standard Australian English (SAE) grammar forms. Teaching resources will be created to accompany the screening tool so ultimately teachers are able to both assess students and implement explicit teaching strategies around the targeted SAE grammar.



Image credit: Sarah Martin