

## Requestive speech leads to referential clarity in Turkish preschool children

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5-year-old, 9-year-old, and adult speakers were asked to request a particular object from an array as part of an art-craft activity in three conditions: (1) common ground condition, where two similar objects of different sizes were visible both to the participants and the confederate; (2) privileged ground condition, where only one of two similar objects was visible to the confederate; and (3) baseline condition, with no similar objects. We found that (a) 5-year-olds produce less discriminating adjectives (e.g., 'big scissors' to identify the larger sized among two scissors of different sizes) than older speakers, instead using bare nouns in labeling constructions, and (b) 5-year-olds produce more discriminating adjectives and fuller verbal constructions when prompted to form polite requestive speech acts (e.g., big scissors-ACC take-AOR-YN-2SG, 'will you take the big scissors?'). 5-year-olds appear to provide uniquely identifying information to enable partners to determine what action exactly is desired in requestive constructions.