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Questions in context: the case of French wh-in-situ

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Stellingen

Questions in context: the case of French *wh*-in-situ – Aliza Glasbergen-Plas

1. French has two different mechanisms to interpret *wh*-in-situ questions, which yield *wh*-in-situ questions with different properties (this dissertation, Chapters 5 and 6).
2. The focus of a *wh*-question does not have to be the *wh*-phrase, not in all languages (this dissertation, Chapters 3 and 4).
3. Intervention effects in French *wh*-in-situ questions can be voided by a context that makes the question 'Maximally Given' (this dissertation, Chapter 5).
4. French *wh*-in-situ questions and echo questions are prosodically distinct, even if their information structure is the same (this dissertation, Chapter 4).
5. The alleged sentence-final rise of French *wh*-in-situ questions is a side effect of focus marking (this dissertation, Chapter 4).
6. Intervention effects in French *wh*-in-situ questions should be studied in elaborate contexts, which are reported in subsequent publications (this dissertation, Chapter 5).
7. Echo questions do not necessarily echo the syntax of the preceding utterance (this dissertation, Chapter 6).
8. Context can also affect judgments of sentences in isolation, as speakers are then free to envisage their own contexts.
9. Various other topics in prosody research could benefit from an elicitation paradigm that allows one to manipulate the discourse context, like Scripted Simulated Dialogue.
10. 'Surprise intonation' is not always related to the emotion of surprise.
11. Contextual salience is a subjective notion.
12. There is more to life than sentences.