

## LANGUAGE PROCESSING IN BILINGUAL SPEAKERS

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### ABSTRACT

A brief review of concepts of bilingualism, its definitions, bilingual acquisition and findings of some psycholinguistic research studies that have been done to uncover the processes and representations that bilinguals use when they are processing language are presented in this article. It can be concluded that the different languages of bilinguals strongly interact during processing. Bilingual speakers and listeners seem to take advantage of the many universal characteristics between the languages they know, by representing their languages in a highly integrated way. In line with this conclusion, from a short overview of some recent research on language control and language switching, it seems that keeping interference from the different languages under control comes with a small but measurable cognitive cost.

**Keywords:** Language control, code-switching, language context, bilingualism multilingualism, polyglotism, bilingual acquisition, interlocutor.