

CHILD-DIRECTED SPEECH IN QAQET

**A LANGUAGE OF EAST NEW BRITAIN,
PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

CHILD-DIRECTED SPEECH IN QAQET

**A LANGUAGE OF EAST NEW BRITAIN,
PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

HENRIKE FRYE



Australian
National
University

ANU PRESS

ASIA-PACIFIC LINGUISTICS



Australian
National
University

ANU PRESS

Published by ANU Press
The Australian National University
Canberra ACT 2600, Australia
Email: anupress@anu.edu.au

Available to download for free at press.anu.edu.au

ISBN (print): 9781760465162

ISBN (online): 9781760465179

WorldCat (print): 1332766208

WorldCat (online): 1332763635

DOI: 10.22459/CDSQ.2022

This title is published under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0) licence.



The full licence terms are available at
creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/legalcode



Cover design and layout by ANU Press. Cover photograph *Child in Kamanakam* by Carmen Dawuda.

This book is published under the aegis of the Asia-Pacific Linguistics Editorial Board of ANU Press.

This edition © 2022 ANU Press

Contents

Acknowledgements

vii

Part I: Setting the scene

1. Introduction	3
1.1 Overview	3
1.2 Child-directed speech	5
1.3 Qaqet Baining	10
1.4 Database and methods	16
1.5 Outlook	20
2. The language environment	21
2.1 Child rearing practices and frameworks of interaction	21
2.2 Assessing attitudes	24
2.3 The amount of input	54
2.4 Summary: Factors contributing to the language environment of children in Raunsepna	60

Part II: Comparison of adult- and child-directed speech

3. Direct comparison of ADS and CDS: The Qaqet pear story corpus	65
3.1 Methods of data collection	65
3.2 The data	71
4. Mean length of utterance	83
4.1 Previous research on MLU in CDS	83
4.2 Utterances	85
4.3 Words or morphemes?	87
4.4 Procedure and results	87
4.5 Summary: MLU in Qaqet CDS	90
5. Disfluencies	93
5.1 Previous research on disfluencies in CDS	93
5.2 A model of disfluency pauses with reference to Qaqet	95
5.3 Disfluency pauses: Comparison of CDS and ADS	98
5.4 Distribution of hesitations	101
5.5 Summary: Disfluencies in Qaqet CDS	104

6. Prosodic features	107
6.1 Previous research on prosodic features of CDS	107
6.2 Method and results	109
6.3 Summary: Prosodic features of CDS in Qaqet	120
7. Directing attention: Speech acts in Qaqet CDS-narratives	123
7.1 Previous research on speech acts in CDS	123
7.2 Data coding and selection	125
7.3 Functions of regulatory intonation units	128
7.4 Summary: Fulfilling a common task	137
8. Corrective input	139
8.1 Previous research on corrective input	139
8.2 Adults' reactions to non-target-like child utterances	140
8.3 Summary: Imitation and recast	146
9. CDS and the Qaqet lexicon	149
9.1 Previous research on special babytalk words	149
9.2 Babytalk words in the CDS-pear stories	150
9.3 Summary	153
10. Conclusion	155
10.1 Hypothesis	155
10.2 Socio-economic background	156
10.3 Language attitudes	156
10.4 The amount of input	157
10.5 Structural features of Qaqet CDS	158
10.6 Limitations and future research	160
Appendix: Interview guideline and results	163
References	169
Index	185