

SEQUENTIAL

VERSUS

SIMULTANEOUS

COMPARING THE 2 TYPES OF BILINGUALS



Sequential bilinguals learn their first language at birth and the second language after the age of 3.

Develop knowledge of second language through 4 stages:

Stage 1 Home Language: speaks language from home to everyone.

Stage 2 Observational: uses gestures to communicate; may be silent (1-6 months).

Stage 3 Telegraphic: Says few main words and simple sentences.

Stage 4 Fluid: Sounds more like native speaker.



Simultaneous bilinguals learned 2 languages at the same time before age of 3.

Two languages highly interconnected.

Unrealistic to be perfectly balanced between the two languages.

Influence of one language to the other is temporary and not due to confusion.

Develop at the same rate as monolingual speakers although vocabulary in each language might be smaller at first.