

Complementary distribution in child speech

(1) N.E., age 4;6

a. Coronals occur before front vowels

[tɛi]	'catching'	[dɛ]	'leg,' 'dress'
[te]	'cage'	[dɛʔ]	'gate'
[tɪkʊ]	'chicken'	[dɪ]	'swim'

b. Velars occur before back vowels

[ko]	'comb'	[goʔ]	'goat'
[kuʔ]	'soup'	[gu ^h]	'tooth'
[ka]	'Tom'	[ga]	'dog'
[ka ^h]	'cough'	[gʊ]	'girl'

c. Labials occur before front and back vowels

[pɪ]	'pinch'	[bɪ]	'big'
[pʊ ^h]	'push'	[bɛ]	'bed'
[piʔ]	'peach'	[bo]	'blow'
[pe]	'page'	[buʔ]	'boot'

(2) Amahl, Stage 1, age 2;60

a. Prevocalic voiced for target voiced

[be:bi:]	'baby'	[bɛk]	'back'
[dɛdi:]	'Daddy'	[dɔ:]	'door'
[ga:gi:]	'glasses'	[geip]	'grape'

b. Prevocalic voiced for target voiceless

[ba:k]	'park'	[bɛgu]	'pedal'
[dɛdi:]	'teddy'	[di:t]	'teeth'
[ga:bi:]	'carpet'	[gʌm]	'come'

c. Final voiceless for target voiced

[a:t]	'hard'	[deidi:bə:t]	'ladybird'
[gɛk]	'leg'	[bɛk]	'peg'

d. Final voiceless for target voiceless

[bʌp]	'bump'	[bɔp]/[dɔp]	'stop'
[dait]	'light'	[ɛt]	'ant'
[ge:k]	'cake'	[ga:k]	'dark'

Chain shifts: s → θ → f (demonstrates many child errors are not due to immature articulation)

(3) Subject 33, age 5;4

a. [f] for target /f/

[faɪjə]	‘fire’	[farv]	‘five’
[bʊrəfʊ]	‘beautiful’	[tafn]	‘coughing’
[naɪf]	‘knife’	[jɪf]	‘leaf’

b. [f] for target /θ/

[fɔrn]	‘thorn’	[fʌm]	‘thumb’
[bæfi]	‘bath (dimin.)’	[maʊfi]	‘mouth (dimin.)’
[bæf]	‘bath’	[tuf]	‘tooth’

c. [θ] for target /s/

[θo]	‘sew’	[θiʔ]	‘sink’
[bʌθi]	‘bus (dimin.)’	[aɪθi]	‘icy’
[dʊθ]	‘juice’	[veɪθ]	‘vase’