

LAB 2: SALT OVERVIEW
SPA 532: CLINICAL LINGUISTICS
B. BEVERLY

The purpose of this lab is to begin to learn the computer software, Systematic Analysis of Language Transcripts (SALT). You will develop knowledge of the toolbars, menus, and analysis procedures for SALT.

Specific Requirements:

1. You may work with one partner to complete this lab.
2. Find the file for “Melanie” under sample transcripts. Open this transcript. Familiarize yourself with the transcript. Recall the transcript conventions for SALT as learned in Lab 1. Now, you want to familiarize yourself with the pulldown menus and “help” topics for SALT.
4. Using SALT, find out how to check for transcript errors. Check Melanie’s transcript. There are no errors in Melanie’s transcript, so you can proceed without correcting any errors. This will be an important step when you create a transcript of your own. You are likely to have several errors and you will need to be able to check these errors before you can analyze the sample.
5. Next, change the *transcript cut* so that you get an *analysis set* of 50 complete and intelligible utterances. (Use the help topics to learn how to do this.) Again, these will be important steps in your sampling project.
6. Under *Analyze*, print the *transcript summary*. This will show that you were able to limit the analysis set to 50 complete and intelligible utterances. Notice the information SALT provided on this page.
7. Also, under *Analyze*, print the *word and morpheme summary*. Notice the MLU and TTR/NDW information computed for you by SALT.
8. Continuing in the *Analyze* menu, print a *bound morpheme table expanded by words*.
9. Still under *Analyze*, print a *standard word list* for *conjunctions* and *personal pronouns* on one page.
10. Now go to the *Database* menu. Use the *Standard Analyses* to *Select Database* to compare Melanie’s transcript to a Conversation database and to individuals +/- 3 months of age. Print the *Standard Measures* analysis.
You should have printed 5 pages of language analysis for Melanie.
11. Using the transcript, the analyses you have completed, and the case study information, write a brief summary report (2 to 3 **paragraphs**) describing Melanie’s language sample and analysis results. Include the following information:
 - Key identifying information regarding Melanie
 - Sample information such as context and length of sample
 - MLU
 - Description of her use of conjunction words
 - # of different word roots (NDW) and comparison to database participants
 - Description of her overuse of mazes/overlaps (study the transcript for these and explain why this is a problem, give examples)
 - Make a recommendation (SLP services, direct or consultative, prognosis for academic success)**A written Case Study for Melanie is provided in the SALT User Guide, pp. 52-56** (SALT-8 student version). You will find this helpful in interpreting various SALT measures and information for your summary.
12. Turn in the report (typed) and the five pages of printout on or before the due date for this lab. Although this lab is not graded, you will need to know how to use SALT for your semester project. If you do not turn in the printouts and report by the due date, 25 points will be deducted from your total course grade. You may be asked to redo portions of this lab, if the instructor feels you need additional practice with the activities.

DUE DATE: 10/7/10