**BACKGROUND**

**Predictive processing of language**
- Literacy trains readers to predict upcoming speech (Huettig & Pickering, 2019)
- L1 speakers predict syntactic (e.g., Favier et al., 2021) and semantic (Altmann & Kamide, 1999) information
- Prediction related to production (Mani & Huettig, 2012)
- Prediction slower in L2 compared to L1 (Dijkgraaf et al., 2019)

**What role does L2 reading play?**
- Little work linking print exposure to predictive processing in L2
- L2 speakers have more difficulty with chunking words into meaningful phrases, tend to process words serially (Conklin & Schmidt, 2012)
- L2 reading associated with knowledge of formulaic language (e.g., collocations & connectives; McCarron et al., 2024)

**METHODS**

**EYE TRACKING TASK**
- Participants: L1 English (n=50) and L1 French / L2 English (n=47)
- Procedure: Listened to 60 English sentences (30 idiomatic and 30 literal) while eye movements were recorded looking at iconic images
- Visual word paradigm: 4 images per trial (1 target, 1 foil, 2 unrelated distractors)
- **Idiomatic trials**: targets related to figurative meaning, foils related to literal meaning
- **Literal trials**: targets related to literal meaning, foils related to figurative meaning
- Participants told to select the image which best represented the context described in each sentence

**ADDITIONAL MEASURES**
- **Print exposure**: Author Fluency Task (AFT; McCarron et al., 2024) and Author Recognition Test (ART; Vermeiren et al., 2022)
- **Proficiency**: LexTALE lexical decision task (word or non-word? Lemhøfer & Broersma, 2012)

**RESULTS**

- **Accuracy on idiomatic trials**: L1: [M=97.39%, SD=3.52%]; L2: [M=93.31%, SD=9.46%]; non-significant
- **Print exposure measures (AFT & ART)** both predicted increased looks-to-targets (linear mixed effects models), but AFT preferred in L2
- **Binning** revealed participants have greater competition from foils in the middle of the prediction window, but those with greater print exposure were more likely to perseverate on the correct image

**CONCLUSION**

L2 reading is associated with predictive processing of speech

- Evidence for a role of reading experience in predictive processing of formulaic speech in L2
- Further evidence for the use of a semantic fluency measure of L2 print exposure, with the Author Fluency Task (AFT) a better predictor than the Author Recognition Test (ART) in this population
- Online eye-tracking studies can address some research questions which might otherwise be difficult to recruit for using traditional, laboratory-based eye-tracking measures