Grammatical Class Spelling:

Instructions for Use

This task looks for effects of grammatical word class in written spelling to dictation. Sets of 5 nouns, adjectives, verbs and functors were selected on the grounds they generally occur in the language in those particular grammatical roles. Words are matched across groups (on a one-to-one basis) as far as possible for word frequency and number of letters, syllables and morphemes. Nouns, adjectives and verbs are matched for imageability. The words are a reduced set of those used in Oral Reading [32] and Repetition [10]. As numbers in this task are so small, the task should be regarded as a screening test that must be followed up by more detailed investigation if the results suggest a specific difficulty.

Grammatical class effects in spelling to dictation (less success in spelling verbs and functors than nouns) have been noted in some acquired dysgraphic disorders (eg. Bub, D. & Kertesz, A. (1982) **Brain & Language**, 17, 145 - 165; Shallice, T. (1981) **Brain**, 104, 413 - 429). Such effects may be due to underlying syntactic-semantic difficulties, or may be due to the fact that words like functors, that often take a purely grammatical role, are generally lower in imageability than other word-classes.

Special Points:

Find out about pre-morbid spelling ability.

Descriptive Statistics (for 28 control subjects):

Nouns	(n = 5)	Mean = 4.79	Std. Dev. = 0.42
Adjectives	(n = 5)	Mean = 4.82	Std. Dev. = 0.48
Verbs	(n = 5)	Mean = 4.82	Std. Dev. = 0.39
Functors	(n = 5)	Mean = 4.68	Std. Dev. = 0.55

Suggestions for Where to go next: As there are only 5 words per condition in this task, any sign of particular difficulty in spelling words of a particular type should be investigated further by using the remainder of the grammatical class word set used to test reading aloud [32]. As with oral reading, grammatical class effects may be separated from those of imageability by testing performance on written spelling when imageability is equated across nouns and functors [42].

PALPA

Grammatical Class Spelling: Presenter's Form

Name:	Date:

Instructions to Subject: Please write down the word that I say.

	Target	Type	Response
1	hence	F	
2	hang	V	
3	client	N	
4	ignore	V	
5	task	N	
6	warm	A	
7	happy	A	
8	upward	F	
9	thou	F	
10	grow	V	
11	image	N	
12	equal	A	
13	plus	F	
14	carry	V	
15	gentle	A	
16	bell	N	
17	write	V	
18	damp	A	
19	mouth	N	
20	latter	F	
	Nouns		
	Adjectives		
	Verbs		
	Functors		

Grammatical Class Spelling:

Marking Form

Name:	Date:

Nouns		Error Type	Adjectives		Error Type
task			warm		
bell			damp		
mouth			happy		
image			equal		
client			gentle		
Total Correct			Total Correct		
Verbs		**Error Type**	**Functors**		**Error Type**
grow			plus		
hang			thou		
write			hence		
carry			latter		
ignore			upward		
Total Correct			Total Correct		