RESUMEN

El lenguaje abstracto es un indicador de que la persona que lo utiliza emite juicios sobre la conducta propia y/o ajena en comparación con la utilización de un lenguaje más concreto.

La teoría de la autoverificación indicaría que cuando utilizamos un lenguaje abstracto estamos verificando como nos vemos a través de la conducta, juzgándonos a través de ella con la finalidad de sentir coherencia y sentirnos identificados.

Paradójicamente a veces, cuando se trata de autoconcepciones negativas, las personas las rechazan cognitivamente pero no toleran que sean rechazadas por los demás, ya que siguen siendo parte emocional de su identidad. No se sienten reconocidas en la interacción, a pesar de que buscan *autoverificar*, es decir, confirmar lo que no reconocen de sí mismas. La disonancia cognitiva que implica este conflicto se resolvería buscando una autoverificación indirecta que evite la saliencia lingüística rechazada. En este caso, la persona que se ve a sí misma como víctima de las circunstancias, y rechaza esta autoimagen, pero busca verificarla utilizaría un lenguaje abstracto en la atribución causal de su conducta, del mismo modo que realizaría comportamientos que le indicaran como se ve de modo indirecto con señales del ambiente que representen la autoimagen confirmada de víctima de las circunstancias.

Los resultados que obtuvimos muestran que pese a que no existe una relación entre la falta de claridad de autoconcepto y el nivel de abstracción en general, si la hay cuando se trata de abstracción lingüística en atribuciones a conductas negativas. Además, encontramos que las personas que buscan autoverificarse de manera indirecta, utilizan un lenguaje más abstracto y además puntúan más alto en la dimensión de necesidad de reconocimiento de victimismo.

Con estos datos se concluye que las personas con baja claridad de autoconcepto utilizan un lenguaje más abstracto ya que emiten más juicios sobre sus conductas negativas porque que les cuesta más identificarse con ellas, pero pese a que las rechazan cognitivamente, buscar verificarlas de manera indirecta llevan a cabo conductas de auto-verificación.

Palabras clave: Autoconcepto, necesidad de reconocimiento, auto-verificación, abstracción lingüística.

SUMMARY

Abstract language is an indicator that the person who uses it makes judgements about their own and/or other people's behaviour in comparison with the use of more concrete language.

The theory of self-verification would indicate that when we use abstract language we are verifying how we see ourselves through behaviour, judging ourselves through it in order to feel coherent and identify with it.

Paradoxically, when it comes to negative self-conceptions, people sometimes reject them cognitively but do not tolerate their rejection by others, as they remain an emotional part of their identity. They do not feel recognised in the interaction, even though they seek to self-verify, i.e. to confirm what they do not recognise about themselves. The cognitive dissonance involved in this conflict would be resolved by seeking an indirect self-verification that avoids the rejected linguistic salience. In this case, the person who sees himself as a victim of circumstances, and rejects this self-image, but seeks to verify it, would use abstract language in the causal attribution of his behaviour, just as he would perform behaviours that would indicate how he sees himself indirectly with environmental cues that represent the confirmed self-image of victim of circumstances.

The results we obtained show that although there is no relationship between lack of self-concept clarity and level of abstraction in general, there is a relationship when it comes to linguistic abstraction in attributions to negative behaviours. Furthermore, we found that people who seek to self-verify indirectly, use more abstract language and also score higher on the dimension of need for recognition of victimhood.

With these data we conclude that people with low self-concept clarity use more abstract language as they make more judgements about their negative behaviours because it is more difficult for them to identify with them, but despite the fact that they cognitively reject them, they seek to verify them indirectly by carrying out self-verification behaviours.

STUDY OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SELF-IMAGE JUDGEMENT, SELF-CONCEPT CLARITY AND PREDISPOSITION TO INDIRECT SELF-VERIFICATION

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INTRODUCTION

One way of measuring language is through linguistic abstraction. Abstract language relates an observed behaviour to beliefs about the character of the agent, whereas concrete language implies that an observed action is an exception to typical behaviour, inconsistent with the nature of the individual performing it (Arcuri 1993; Cole and Leets 1998; Maass 1999).

Self-verification theory would indicate that when we use abstract language we are verifying how we see ourselves through the behaviour, judging ourselves through it in order to feel coherent and to identify with it.

When it comes to negative self-conceptions, people reject them cognitively but do not tolerate their rejection by others, as they remain an emotional part of their identity. They do not feel recognised in the interaction, even though they seek to confirm what they do not recognise about themselves. The cognitive dissonance involved in this conflict would be resolved by seeking an indirect self-verification that avoids the rejected linguistic salience. Therefore, they will perform behaviours that indicate how they see themselves indirectly with environmental cues that represent the confirmed self-image.

OBJETIVE

To study whether the language used in attributions is associated with judgement and clarity of self-concept.

HYPOTHESIS

H1: Attributions to behaviour with abstract language will be more associated with a lack of clarity of self-concept than attributions with concrete language.

H2: Attributions to negative behaviour with abstract language will be more associated with a lack of clarity of self-concept than attributions with concrete language.

H3: The person who complains that they find things hard to find will use more abstract language to attribute causes to their behaviour.

H4: The person who complains that it is difficult to find things easily will have a higher profile of victimhood in the dimension of lack of recognition than the person who resolves the search without complaining.

METHOD
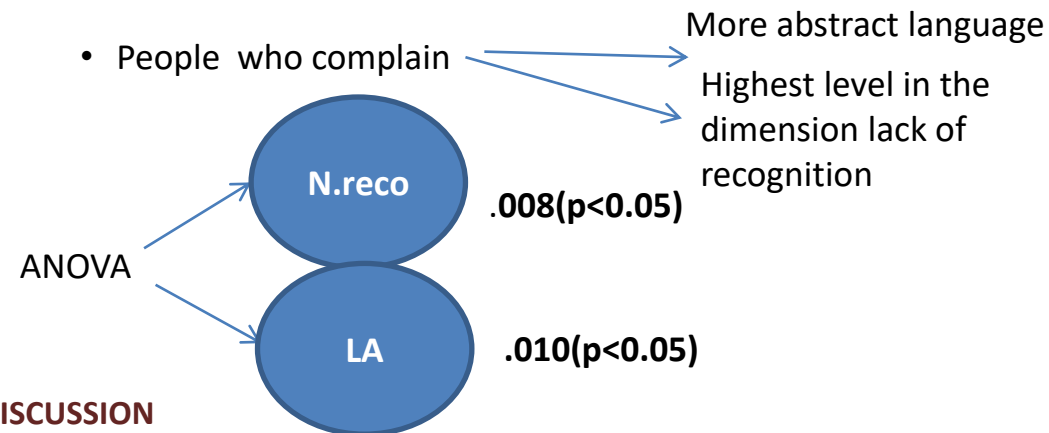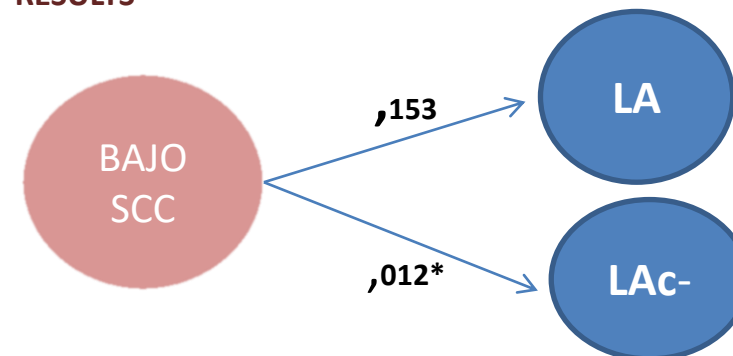
PARTICIPANTS

45% WOMAN
55% MAN
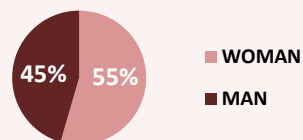
PROCEDURE

- SCC scale
- TIV scale
- Linguistic attribution-Linguistic category model
- Indirect self-verification experiment

DATA ANALYSIS

- PEARSON'S CORRELATION
- ANOVA OF 1 FACTOR
- DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSE

RESULTS

BAJO SCC → LA **,153**
BAJO SCC → LAc- **,012***

- People who complain → More abstract language
- Highest level in the dimension lack of recognition

ANOVA → N.reco **.008(p<0.05)**
ANOVA → LA **.010(p<0.05)**

DISCUSSION

when it comes to negative self-conceptions, people reject them cognitively but do not tolerate their rejection by others, as they remain an emotional part of their identity. They do not feel recognised in the interaction, even though they seek to self-verify, i.e. to confirm what they do not recognise about themselves. The cognitive dissonance involved in this conflict is resolved by seeking an indirect self-verification that avoids the rejected linguistic salience. In this case, the person who sees himself as a victim of circumstances, and rejects this self-image, but seeks to verify it, uses abstract language in the causal attribution of his behaviour, in the same way that he performs behaviours that indicate how he sees himself indirectly with environmental cues that represent the confirmed self-image of victim of circumstances.

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