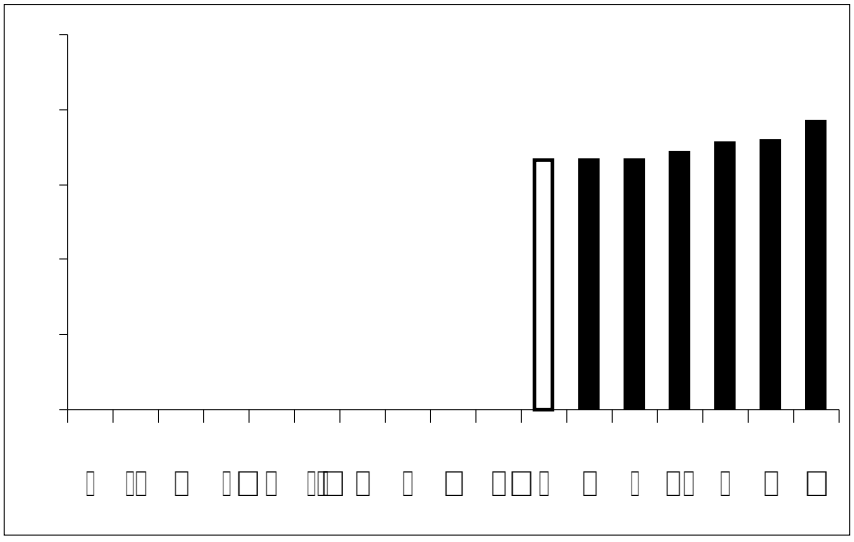
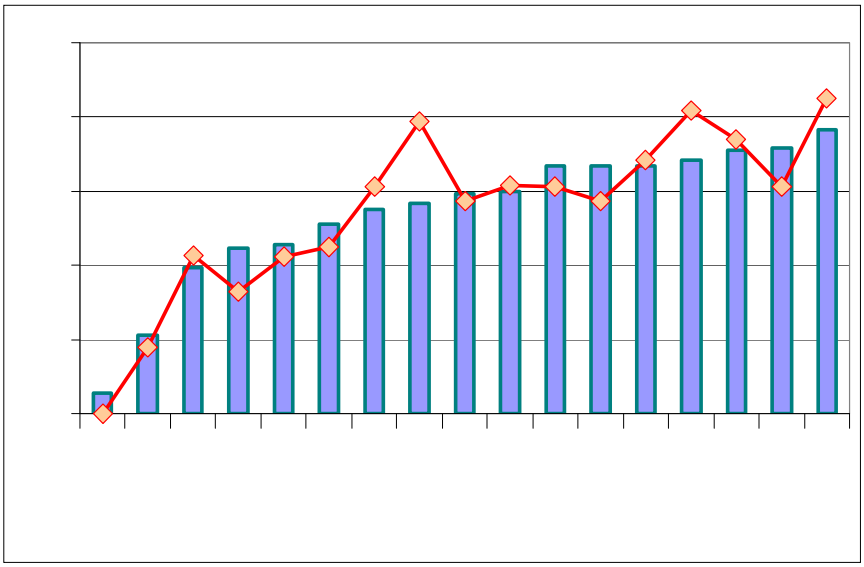


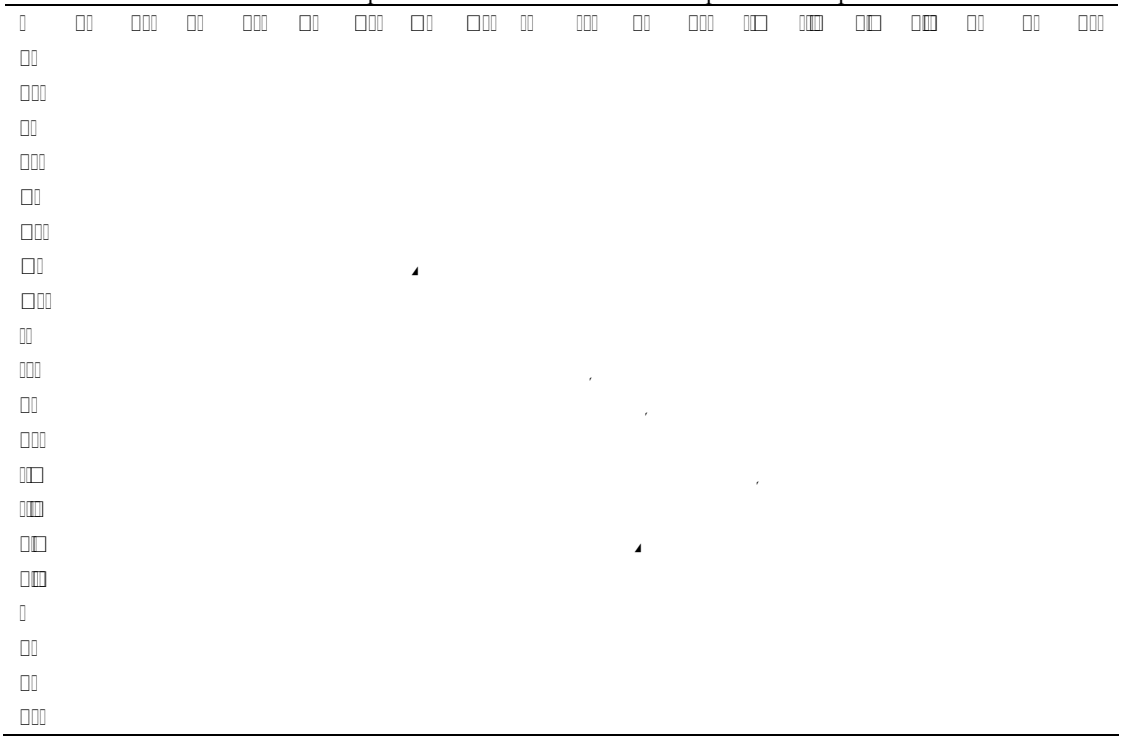
he reduplication data su ests that the most similar consonants to, t are, in order, [illegible] his order assumes that aspiration is the least contrastive feature, i.e. unaspirated and aspirated sounds sharin all other features will be the most confusable sounds. oicin would be sli htly more contrastive, minor place above that, and ma or place bein the most contrastive.



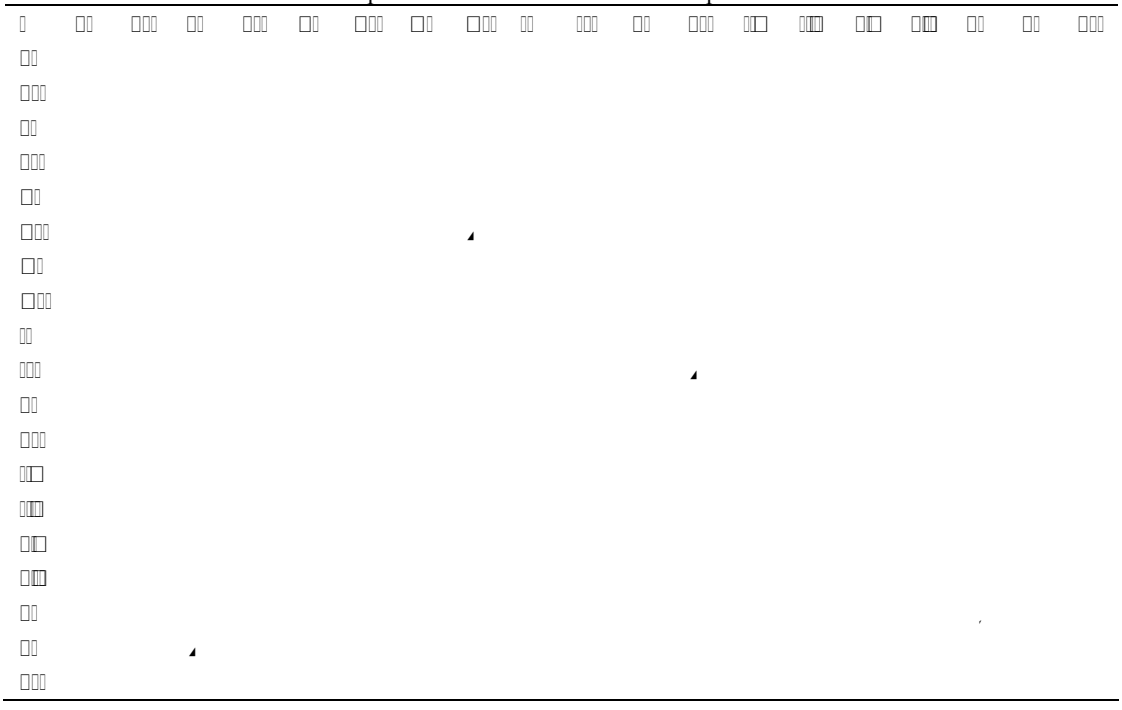
- xamples of stimulus items illustratin the three conditions

creenshot of the C experiment run in raat. he instructions at the top read

Confusion matrix for stop and affricate consonants in onset position with pin noise.



Confusion matrix for stop and affricate consonants in onset position with multi-tal er babble.



he most typical confusions in en ali onset consonants across all three bac round noise conditions are in voicin and aspiration, primarily in the former. Confusions in minor place are almost nonexistent in the clear condition, with only a handful seen in the noise condition. Confusions in ma or place are only seen in the babble condition, where all types of confusions are common. hese results are similar to the predictions of han , except that voicin was found to be more confusable than aspiration.

he current study should only be seen as the initial part of a lar er investi ation of the connections between similarity as measured by confusability and similarity as revealed throu h phonolo ical alternation. ore sub ects will no doubt need to be run to reach the statistical power needed for confident claims about this connection. owever, even with the current findin s, it is clear that similarity as measured by confusability shows notable resemblances to the predictions proposed by han s phonolo ical study of consonant similarity en ali.

I would li e to express my ratitude to arc arelle , e ha undara, and aime oemer for their help in experimental desi n to i u, hi eto awahara, and arc arelle for use of their raat scripts to adiya herif for producin the stimulus items and most importantly to all seven sub ects of the perception experiment for their patience and participation. his research pro ect was funded by eed Colle e throu h the tillman ra ward.

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