

The study aims to explore to what extent the Egyptian mothers use elaborative language with their primary school children and the relationships between their use of elaborative language and their children' autobiographical memory. Thirty Egyptian women and their children participated in the study. The mothers were administered the Elaborative Language Questionnaire to assess the level of their using elaborative language with their children. Then mothers conducted a structured interview with their children which were evaluated by the researcher to determine the autobiographical memory accuracy and functions.

Results indicated that the Egyptian mothers used a high level of elaborative language while talking with their children. Moreover, the two-variables model of the elaborative language (emotional and cognitive) predicted the accuracy and functions of autobiographical memory. The emotional component of the elaborative language was the only variable which predicted accuracy in an independent way. The cognitive factor was the only variable which predicted the self-regulation function independently. Results were discussed in the light of elaborative language and autobiographical memory literature. Recommendation were made concerning urging and training mothers to talk and listen to their children.