

Ava Creemers

Curriculum Vitae

MPI for Psycholinguistics
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Current position

2020–present | **Postdoctoral researcher**, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics
Psychology of Language department
Advisor: Antje Meyer

Education

2015–2020 | **Ph.D. in Linguistics**, University of Pennsylvania
Dissertation: *Morphological processing and the effects of semantic transparency*
Advisor: David Embick; Committee: Meredith Tamminga, Florian Schwarz

2014 | **Research M.A. in Linguistics**, University of Amsterdam (cum laude)
Master's thesis: *Mass-Count and Article Choice in children with High Functioning Autism and with Specific Language Impairment*
Supervisors: Jeannette Schaeffer and Judith Rispens

2012 | **B.A. Dutch Language and Culture**, University of Amsterdam (cum laude)
BA thesis: *Nederlandse idiomen als toetsingsdomein voor lexicale decompositie*
(Dutch idioms as a testing domain for lexical decomposition)
Supervisor: Jan Don

Publications

Refereed Journal Articles

- 2021 | **Ava Creemers** and David Embick. "Retrieving stem meanings in opaque words during auditory lexical processing." *Language, Cognition and Neuroscience* (advance online publication). DOI: [10.1080/23273798.2021.1909085](https://doi.org/10.1080/23273798.2021.1909085)
- 2020 | Birgit Knudsen, **Ava Creemers**, and Antje S. Meyer. "Forgotten little words: How backchannels and particles may facilitate speech planning in conversation." *Frontiers in Psychology*, 11, 3071. DOI: [10.3389/fpsyg.2020.593671](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.593671)
- 2020 | **Ava Creemers**, Amy Goodwin Davies, Robert J. Wilder, Meredith Tamminga, and David Embick. "Opacity, transparency, and morphological priming: A study of prefixed verbs in Dutch". *Journal of Memory and Language*, 110, 104055. DOI: [10.1016/j.jml.2019.104055](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jml.2019.104055)
- 2018 | **Ava Creemers**, Jan Don, and Paula Fenger. "Some affixes are roots, others are heads." *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 36(1), pp. 45–84. DOI: [10.1007/s11049-017-9372-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11049-017-9372-1)
- 2018 | Jeannette Schaeffer, Merel van Witteloostuijn, **Ava Creemers**. "Article Choice, Theory of Mind and Memory in Children with High-Functioning Autism and Children with Specific Language Impairment". *Applied Psycholinguistics* 39(1), pp. 89–115. DOI: [10.1017/S0142716417000492](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0142716417000492)

Book and Volume Chapters

- In press David Embick, **Ava Creemers**, and Amy Goodwin Davies. "Morphology and the mental lexicon: Three questions about decomposition". *Oxford Handbook of the Mental Lexicon*, ed. by Lila Gleitman, Anna Papafragou, and John Trueswell. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Preprint: lingbuzz/005435
- 2020 Emma Van Lipzig, **Ava Creemers**, and Jan Don. "Morphological processing in nominalizations: A priming study on Dutch." *Linguistics in the Netherlands 2020*, ed. by Elena Tribushinina and Mark Dingemanse, pp. 165–179. DOI: [10.1075/avt.00044.lip](https://doi.org/10.1075/avt.00044.lip)
- 2015 Paula Fenger, **Ava Creemers**, and Marlijn Meijer. "The syntactic nature of the particle *be-*". *Linguistics in the Netherlands 2015* 32(1), ed. by Björn Köhnlein and Jenny Audring, pp. 48–62. DOI: [10.1075/avt.32.04fen](https://doi.org/10.1075/avt.32.04fen)
- 2015 **Ava Creemers** and Jeannette Schaeffer. "Grammatical and pragmatic properties of the DP in children with Specific Language Impairment (SLI) and in children with High Functioning Autism (HFA)". *Linguistics in the Netherlands 2015* 32(1), ed. by Björn Köhnlein and Jenny Audring, pp. 16–32. DOI: [10.1075/avt.32.02cre](https://doi.org/10.1075/avt.32.02cre)

Conference Proceedings

- 2020 **Ava Creemers**. "Resultative Secondary Predicates and Prefixes in German and Dutch". *Penn Working Papers in Linguistics: Proceedings of the 43rd Annual Penn Linguistics Conference*, eds. by Ryan Budnick and Nari Rhee, vol. 26.1, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. [[pdf](#)]
- 2019 **Ava Creemers**, Nattanun Chanchaochai, and David Embick. "Auditory priming of pseudo-derived words". *Proceedings ExLing 2019: 10th International Conference of Experimental Linguistics*, ed. by Antonis Botinis, pp. 65–68. Athens, Greece. [[pdf](#)]
- 2019 Nattanun Chanchaochai and **Ava Creemers**. "Investigating the Corner–Corn Effect in Auditory Processing." *Proceedings of The 11th International Conference on the Mental Lexicon*, 1, e102. DOI: [10.7939/r3-w5rt-gy96](https://doi.org/10.7939/r3-w5rt-gy96)
- 2018 **Ava Creemers**, Jérémy Zehr, and Florian Schwarz. "Interpreting Presuppositions in the Scope of Quantifiers: *every* vs. *at least one*". *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 22*, eds. by Uli Sauerland and Stephanie Solt, Vol. 1. ZASPiL 60, pp. 331–348. Berlin: Leibniz-Centre General Linguistics. [[pdf](#)]
- 2016 **Ava Creemers** and Jeannette Schaeffer. "Specific Language Impairment and High Functioning Autism: Evidence for Distinct Etiologies and for Modularity of Grammar and Pragmatics." *Proceedings of the 6th Conference on Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition North America (GALANA 2015)*, eds. by Laurel Perkins et al., pp. 1–12. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project. [[pdf](#)]
- 2015 **Ava Creemers**, Jan Don, Paula Fenger. "Stress and categorial flexibility of affixes as a consequence of morphological structure". *North East Linguistic Society (NELS) 45*, eds. by Bui, T. and Özyildiz, D., pp. 165–178. Amherst, MA, UMass, GSLA publications.

Edited Volumes

- 2019 *Penn Working Papers in Linguistics, Proceedings of the 42nd Annual Penn Linguistics Conference*, Vol. 25.1, ed. by **Ava Creemers** and Caitlin Richter. Available at: repository.upenn.edu/pwpl/vol25/iss1/.

Presentations

Refereed Conference Talks

- 2020 **Ava Creemers** *Auditory processing of English semantically transparent and opaque compound words*. Talk at the virtual Words in the World International Conference (WoW), October 16–18 (virtual).
- 2020 **Ava Creemers** and David Embick. *Associative stem priming with semantically opaque prefixed verbs in Dutch*. Talk at Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP), University of Potsdam, Germany, September 3–5 (virtual).
- 2020 Emma Van Lipzig, **Ava Creemers**, and Jan Don. *Is there Morphological Decomposition in Irregular Nominalizations? A Priming Study on Dutch*. Talk at the Morphology in the Low Countries (MiLC) symposium, Utrecht University, (conference postponed due to COVID-19).
- 2020 **Ava Creemers**. *The representation of opaque meanings in Dutch prefixed verbs*. Accepted for a talk at the 44th Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC 44), University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA, March 27–29 (conference cancelled due to COVID-19).
- 2020 **Ava Creemers**. *Auditory processing of English compound words*. Poster at the 33rd Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, University of Massachusetts, Amherst MA, March 19–21 (virtual, see <https://osf.io/fxyre/>).
- 2019 **Ava Creemers**, Nattanun Chanchaochai, and David Embick. *Auditory processing of pseudo-derived English words*. Talk at the 10th Tutorial and Research Workshop on Experimental Linguistics, University of Lisbon, Portugal, September 25–27.
- 2019 **Ava Creemers**. *Resultative Secondary Predicates and Prefixes in German and Dutch*. Talk at the 43rd Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC 43), University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA, March 22–24.
- 2018 **Ava Creemers**, Amy Goodwin Davies, and Robert J. Wilder. *Auditory morphological priming of semantically transparent and opaque Dutch prefixed verbs*. Talk at the Mental Lexicon (MenLex2018), Edmonton, Canada, September 25–28.
- 2018 Nattanun Chanchaochai and **Ava Creemers**. *Evidence for early form-based decomposition in auditory priming*. Talk at the Mental Lexicon (MenLex2018), Edmonton, Canada, September 25–28.
- 2018 **Ava Creemers**, Amy Goodwin Davies, and Robert J. Wilder. *Morphological priming of Dutch prefixed verbs in auditory word processing*. Talk at the 42nd Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC 42), University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA, March 23–25.
- 2017 **Ava Creemers**, Jeannette Schaeffer, and Merel van Witteloostuijn. *Article Choice, Theory of Mind and Memory in Dutch-speaking children with language impairment*. Poster at Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD) 42, Boston University, Boston MA, November 3–5.
- 2017 **Ava Creemers**, Amy Goodwin Davies, and Robert J. Wilder. *Morphological Priming of Dutch Complex Verbs is independent of Semantic Transparency*. Talk at Societas Linguistica Europaea (SLE) 50, part of the workshop *What is in a Morpheme?*, University of Zurich, Switzerland, September 10–13.
- 2017 **Ava Creemers**, Jérémy Zehr, and Florian Schwarz. *Interpreting Presuppositions in the Scope of Quantifiers: every vs. at least one*. Poster at Sinn und Bedeutung (SuB22), ZAS/University of Potsdam, Germany, September 7–10.
- 2017 **Ava Creemers**, Jérémy Zehr, and Florian Schwarz. *Interpreting Presuppositions in the Scope of Quantifiers: every vs. at least one*. Poster at the 30th CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, MIT, Cambridge MA, March 30 - April 1.

Refereed Conference Talks (cont'd)

- 2017 **Ava Creemers**, Florian Schwarz, and Jérémy Zehr. *Presupposition projection in quantified sentences: every vs. at least one*. Theoretical and Experimental Approaches to Presuppositions, Laboratory of Psychology of Language, Genoa, Italy, March 3-5.
- 2015 **Ava Creemers** and Jeannette Schaeffer. *Grammatical and pragmatic properties of DP in children with Specific Language Impairment (SLI) and in children with High Functioning Autism (HFA)*. Talk at Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition – North America (GALANA), University of Maryland, College Park MD, February 19-22.
- 2014 **Ava Creemers**, Jan Don, and Paula Fenger. *Stress and categorial flexibility of affixes as a consequence of morphological structure*. Talk at North East Linguistic Society (NELS) 45, MIT, Cambridge MA, October 31 - November 2.
- 2014 **Ava Creemers**, Jan Don, and Paula Fenger. *Stress-sensitivity and flexibility of affixes*. Talk at 16th International Morphology Meeting (IMM), Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary, May 29-31.
- 2013 **Ava Creemers**, Jan Don, and Paula Fenger. *A syntactic approach to stress-sensitivity and flexibility of derivational affixes*. Talk at the Morfologiedagen (Morphology days), De Fryske Akademy, Leeuwarden, December 13.

Other Talks

- 2020 **Ava Creemers**, *Morphological and semantic processing of semantically opaque prefixed verbs in Dutch*. Talk at the ILST seminar (Integrated Language Science and Technology), University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA, February 14.
- 2020 Emma van Lipzig, **Ava Creemers**, and Jan Don. *Snuiten - snot: over de rol van morfologie bij onregelmatige nominalisaties 'Snuiten - snot: on the role of morphology in irregular nominalisations'*. Talk at the Dutch Annual Linguistics Day, Utrecht University, January 31.
- 2019 **Ava Creemers**. *Morphological and semantic processing of prefixed verbs in Dutch*. Talk at Grammar & Cognition, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, November 1.
- 2019 **Ava Creemers**. *The processing of morphologically complex verbs in Dutch*. Talk at workshop *Doing experiments with theoretical linguistics*, University of Amsterdam, April 4 [invited talk].
- 2017 **Ava Creemers**. *Quantifier scope resolution in doubly quantified ditransitive sentences*. Poster at MACSIM 7 (Mid-Atlantic Colloquium of Studies in Meaning), Georgetown University, Washington D.C., October 7.
- 2016 **Ava Creemers**. *Lexical Representation of Dutch Complex Verbs*. Talk at Grammar & Cognition, University of Amsterdam, June 24.
- 2015 Jeannette Schaeffer, **Ava Creemers**, and Merel van Witteloostuijn. *Article Choice in children with High Functioning Autism (HFA) and in children with Specific Language Impairment (SLI)*. Talk at workshop *Acquiring Referentiality*, Utrecht University, April 10.
- 2015 **Ava Creemers** and Jeannette Schaeffer. *Grammatical and pragmatic properties of the DP in children with Specific Language Impairment (SLI) and in children with High Functioning Autism (HFA)*. TIN-day (Taalkunde in Nederland / Linguistics in the Netherlands), Utrecht University, February 7.
- 2015 Paula Fenger, **Ava Creemers**, and Marlijn Meijer. *On the Syntactic Nature of the Dutch Particle be-*. TIN-day (Taalkunde in Nederland / Linguistics in the Netherlands), Utrecht University, February 7.

Teaching and Mentoring Experience

Fall 2020	Guest lecturer: “The role of morphological structure in spoken word recognition” <i>Leading Questions in Cognition, Language, and Communication</i> (LQinCLC) BA <i>Cognition, Language, and Communication</i> , University of Amsterdam
Spring 2020	Guest lecturer: “Experimental Design in Linguistics” (two classes) <i>Mental lexicon</i> (LING 575; graduate level), Penn
Fall 2019	Guest lecturer: “Modeling RT data in R” <i>Quantitative analysis of linguistic variation</i> (LING 562; graduate level), Penn
Summer 2018	Guest lecturer: <i>Introduction to Psycholinguistics</i> <i>Introduction to Linguistics</i> (LING 001; undergraduate level), Penn
Spring 2018	Teaching Assistant for <i>Introduction to Linguistics</i> (LING 001; undergraduate level) I taught two sections with 22 and 24 students Instructor: Gareth Roberts, Penn
Fall 2017	Guest lecturer: “Experimental Approaches to Psycholinguistics” <i>Experimental Approaches in Language</i> (LING 170; undergraduate level)
Spring 2017	Teaching Assistant for <i>Introduction to Linguistics</i> (LING 001; undergraduate level) I taught two sections with 23 and 20 students Instructor: Jianjing Kuang, Penn
Fall 2016	Teaching Assistant for <i>Language Acquisition</i> (LING 270; undergraduate level) Instructor: Charles Yang, Penn
2013–2015	Instructor in Dutch writing for De Taalprof De Haagse Hogeschool (The Hague University of Applied Sciences)
Fall 2012	Teaching Assistant for <i>Practicum Zinsanalyse (Sentence Analysis)</i> Dutch Linguistics department, University of Amsterdam

Fellowships, Awards, & Grants

2015–2020	Benjamin Franklin Fellowship , Penn
2019	Penfield Dissertation Research Fellowship , SAS, Penn (\$4375)
2019	Travel grant , 10th International Conference of Experimental Linguistics
2018–2019	Graduate Fellowship for Teaching Excellence , Center for Teaching and Learning Awarded annually to fourteen graduate students university-wide, nominated by department (\$6000)
2017	President Gutmann Leadership Award ; selectivity rate of 10% (\$830)
2015	Travel grant , GALANA (\$400)
2014	Travel grant , Glow Spring School 1
2013	First prize poster presentation “The emergence of the CP in Germanic and the development of the complementizer <i>that</i> ”, Poster Festival, UvA
2012	Second prize yearly essay competition , organized by the University of Amsterdam: <i>De Taal van de Universiteit</i> (The University’s Language) (€ 750)

Academic Service

Reviewing

Ad hoc	<i>Language, Cognition and Neuroscience</i> · <i>Journal of Experimental Psychology: General</i> · <i>The Mental Lexicon</i> · <i>Glossa: A Journal of General Linguistics</i>
Abstracts	<i>Penn Linguistics Conference</i> · <i>Going Romance</i> · <i>International Conference on the Mental Lexicon</i>

Professional Service

2020–	Member of the MPI Diversity Working Group
2020–	Translator for MPI TalkLing, MPI's science communication blog
2019	Graduate Student Representative, SAS Teaching Awards Selection Committee, School of Arts and Sciences, Penn
2018–2019	Co-President, Graduate Linguistics Society (GradLingS), Department of Linguistics, Penn (served from January 2018 – May 2019)
2017–2018	Prospective Student Liaison, Department of Linguistics, Penn
2016–2017	Co-chair Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC41), Department of Linguistics, Penn
Fall 2016	Speaker Series Coordinator, Department of Linguistics, Penn
Spring 2016	Speaker Series Assistant, Department of Linguistics, Penn
2014	Organizer first RMA Linguistics alumni event, UvA
2011–2014	Editor <i>Linguistics, Absint</i> , magazine for Dutch Language and Culture, UvA
2010–2011	Secretary of Helios, student association in Dutch Language and Culture, UvA

Technical Skills

Proficient	R (data processing; statistical analysis, in particular linear mixed-effects modelling; data visualisation using ggplot2), Ibex, L ^A T _E X
Basic	Qualtrics, PsychoPy, Praat, Python

Language proficiency

Native	Dutch
Fluent	English
Basic	German, French