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Poster Presentation P30

**A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON SECOND LANGUAGE COMPREHENSION
ABILITIES: POST STUDY-ABROAD RETENTION**

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This study focuses on the ability students at the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) intermediate level have on comprehending social conversations in their second language (L2) once removed from the study-abroad environment. This study determines if length of time away from the study-abroad context plays a factor in the loss of any L2 abroad gain. Two groups who have studied abroad at different times and 1 group without study-abroad experience but at an equal college Spanish-level will be tested on grammar and speech acts (complaining, apologizing, and humor). I predict a gap in comprehension between the most recently returned group and the others, supporting my hypothesis that comprehension ability is determined by L2 cultural saturation.