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A Study of the Maintenance of Conversation in Students with Autism

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Poster Presentation P11

**A STUDY OF THE MAINTENANCE OF CONVERSATION IN
STUDENTS WITH AUTISM**

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Individuals diagnosed with a disorder on the autism spectrum often experience difficulties in verbally expressing themselves. Although there is some data that supports that these individuals lack communication skills, there is not a great deal of data that explores specific details and areas that are affected the most. This presentation will present statistics on the responses given when those with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) are prompted to maintain a conversation. This study follows two special education classes at the local high school that follow the same curriculum and have the same assignments. The findings of this study reveal the great amount of variability in the skills of these students despite being held to the same standards in the classroom and provide baseline data on conversation maintenance in ASD students for future researchers.