**Supplementary material**

List of targets used in both experiments.

\* Marks targets for which the prime fragment was ‘ambiguous’ in that it received a different completion from that of the target it was created from by at least one of four deaf native or deaf near native adult signers.

Affe (monkey)

Apfel\* (apple)

Auto (car)

Ballon\* (balloon)

Birne\* (pear)

Blume (flower)

Boden (floor)

Brücke (bridge)

Bürste\* (brush)

Butter (butter)

Drache\* (dragon)

Engel\* (angel)

Ente\* (duck)

Fahrrad (bicycle)

Farbe (colour)

Feier (celebration)

Flasche\* (bottle)

Flugzeug (airplane)

Foto (picture)

Fussball\* (football/soccer)

Hammer (hammer)

Hase (rabbit)

Hexe (witch)

Honig\* (honey)

Hunger (hunger)

Jacke\* (coat)

Kaffee\* (coffee)

Käse\* (cheese)

Katze (cat)

Kirche\* (church)

Kleber\* (glue)

Koffer (suitcase)

Kreide\* (chalk)

Kuchen (cake)

Lehrer (teacher)

Löffel (spoon)

Löwe (lion)

Mädchen (girl)

Mama\* (mum)

Märchen\* (fairy tale)

Messer\* (knife)

Monat (month)

Motor\* (engine)

Mutter (mother)

Mütze (cap)

Name (name)

Nummer (number)

Papa\* (dad)

Pause (break)

Person\* (person)

Pinsel\* (brush)

Regen\* (rain)

Roller\* (scooter)

Schaufel\* (shovel)

Schaukel\* (swing)

Schere\* (scissors)

Schlüssel (key)

Schule (school)

Schwester (sister)

Seife (soap)

Sonne (sun)

Spiegel (mirror)

Tanne (fir)

Tante\* (aunt)

Tasse\* (cup)

Taxi\* (taxi)

Teddy\* (teddy)

Teufel (devil)

Tiger\* (tiger)

Treppe\* (stairs)

Unfall (accident)

Urlaub (holiday)

Vater\* (father)

Vogel (bird)

Wasser\* (water)

Wecker (alarm)

Wiese (meadow)

Wolke (cloud)

Zeitung (newspaper)

Zirkus\* (circus)