

## The usefulness of eye-tracking for studying written language processing

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The past 30 years have convincingly demonstrated the fruitfulness of the eye-tracking methodology in studying cognitive processes during written language comprehension and other visually based cognitive tasks. This research has successfully subscribed to the eye-mind hypothesis, according to which there is a close link between what the eyes are currently looking at and what the mind is involved with. In my talk I present examples of this “success story” as it pertains to different aspects of written language comprehension, from word recognition via sentence parsing to processing of more extended discourse. I also point to the method’s limitation: In order to study ongoing mental processes by means of eye movement records, the gazed-at visual environment has to be relevant to the performed task in a predictable way.