

Can a person be dyslexic in one language but not another?

If we think of dyslexia as a developmental difference then a person who has dyslexia is dyslexic and will never grow out of it. It follows that they will be dyslexic in everything they do, not just in their language usage. Some dyslexic people seem to have fewer difficulties in one language than another, or they have developed strategies that work better in one language. English is notoriously irregular in terms of its phoneme - grapheme correlation, causing a lot of difficulties for people trying to learn to read and write it (whether they are dyslexic or not!). If a person's first language is more regular (like Italian, for example) it may well be that they have never realised they are dyslexic until they try to learn English. It's not that they are just dyslexic in English, but that it hasn't been so obvious when they were using other languages.