Supplementary Data 1:
Details on general aphasia evaluation and picture naming score:

Patient 1
General aphasia evaluation (GAE) at T1 showed impairment in object naming (several semantic paraphasias), verbal fluency, yes/no questions and following oral and written semi-complex and complex commands in both L1 and L2. At T2, the scores remained stable for L2, however improvement was seen mainly in yes/no questions and following oral and written semi-complex and complex commands. McNemar chi-squared test over the total GAE score showed a significant improvement in the total GAE score of L1 ($\chi^2$: 12.7, P: 0.005). In L2 no improvement was found in the total GAE score. Picture naming during fMRI acquisition showed several errors in both L1 and L2 at T1 (21 of 40 images correctly named in L1 while only one picture correctly named in L2, he switched repeatedly to L1 and produced 5 semantic errors).
At T2, there was a significant improvement in picture naming in L1 ($\chi^2$: 7.11, p: 0.007), however, no improvement was found in picture naming in L2.

Patient 2
General aphasia evaluation at T1, showed slight impairment in object naming, verbal fluency, yes/no questions and following oral semi-complex and complex commands in L1 and slight impairment in verbal fluency, word/phrase repetition and following oral and written semi-complex and complex orders L2. At T2, the scores remained stable for both languages in all subtests except for an improvement in object naming in L1 and word and phrase repetition in L2. The total GAE score showed improvement in the total GAE score of L1 ($\chi^2$: 5.14, P: 0.023). In L2 no improvement was found in the total GAE score. Picture naming during fMRI acquisition showed low accuracy score in both L1 and L2 at T1 (26 of 40 images correctly named in L1 and 28 of 40 picture correctly named in L2).
At T2, there was an improvement in picture naming in L1 ($\chi^2$: 5.14, p: 0.02), while no improvement was found in picture naming in L2.

Patient 3
General aphasia evaluation at T1, showed a generally good performance in all the subtests except a slight impairment in object naming and moderate impairment in verbal fluency and following written semi-complex and complex commands in both L1 and L2. At T2, her performance improved generally in both L1 and L2 (except for the absence of improvement in verbal fluency in L2). McNemar chi-squared
test over the total GAE score showed a significant improvement in the total GAE score of both L1 ($\chi^2$: 7.11, P: 0.007) and L2 ($\chi^2$: 8.1, P: 0.004).

Picture naming during fMRI acquisition showed a significant improvement at T2 in picture naming in L1 ($\chi^2$: 5.3, p: 0.02), however, no improvement was found in picture naming in L2 across time.

Patient 4

General aphasia evaluation at T1 in L2 showed impairment in object naming, verbal fluency and description, while L1 performance in all subtests were spared except for one error in object naming and two errors in yes/no questions. His performance in the total GAE score was stable in both L1 and L2 between T1 and T2; L1 ($\chi^2$: 3.2, P: 0.07) and L2 ($\chi^2$: 3.2, P: 0.07).

Picture naming during fMRI acquisition showed an impaired performance in L2 at T1 (mainly due to no responses), while picture naming in L1 was performed quite correctly. At T2, no improvement was found in picture naming in L2 ($\chi^2$: 2.25, P: 0.13).

Patient 5

General aphasia evaluation at T1, showed a slight impairment in object naming (only one language switching error), impaired verbal fluency, series and impairment in following auditory and written commands in L1. However, in L2, he showed impairment in object naming, verbal fluency and following auditory and written commands. At T2, his performance improved in written command in both L1 and L2. He also showed improvement in object naming in L2, however he performed more errors in yes/no questions in L2. McNemar chi-squared test over the total GAE score showed no significant improvement in the total GAE score of both L1 ($\chi^2$: 2.25, P: 0.13) and L2 ($\chi^2$: 3.2, P: 0.07).

Picture naming during fMRI acquisition showed an impaired performance in both L1 and L2 at T1 (he had several switching errors in both languages). At T2, picture naming improved in both L1 and L2 ($\chi^2$: 17.05, P<0.0001 and $\chi^2$: 6.12, P: 0.013, respectively).
Supplementary Data 2:

Control subjects:

Control subjects recruitment:

We recruited six healthy subjects matched by age (65.6±8.5), education and AoA (18.6±4.3) however one subject was removed from the analyses as he did not meet our criteria for DCM analyses (i.e. lack of activation in one of the ROIs). The control subjects all speak French as their second language; two subjects speak Italian as L1, two speak German and one speaks Spanish as L1. In all control subjects, their main language usage and exposure at work and with family and friends is L2.

Control subjects were evaluated in a single session using behavioral language control tasks (linguistic and non-linguistic switching) and fMRI picture naming tasks. The MRI recording was performed in the scanner 2 for all the control subjects.

FMRI data analyses:

For the control group, brain activation during picture naming in L1 and L2 was shown using Fixed Effect Analyses (FFX) of the activation with a threshold of p<0.05 FWE corrected (Supplementary figure 1 a). The coordinates of the activated areas are summarized in supplementary Data 3.

DCM results:

In the control subjects, the differences in the average connection strength for each connection across subjects are shown in Supplementary figure 1 b. In the control group, for each single connection in the network, the difference in the average connection strength across subjects is shown in Supplementary figure 1 b. In this group average, most of the connections (9 of 15) have greater strength values for L1 compared to L2; i.e., higher connectedness within the language-control network for L1 compared to L2.
Supplementary Data 3:

Pattern of activation in control subjects: Fixed Effect analyses of fMRI data shows the pattern of brain activation in our control group while picture naming in L1 and L2. A significance threshold of p<0.05 (FWE corrected) was applied.

| Coordinates (x,y,z) | T | p (FWE) | Brodmann area | MNI-aal | Neuromorphometric | Side |
|---------------------|---|---------|---------------|---------|-------------------|------|
| -33 85 -8 21.34 0.000 | 18, 19 | Inf. Occipital | Inf. Occipital gyrus | Left |
| -51 -10 34 19.41 0.000 | 4, 6 | Post central | Postcentral gyrus | Left |
| 33 85 -5 19.05 0.000 | 18, 19 | Inf. Occipital | Inf. Occipital gyrus | Left |
| -27 -5 -4 13.09 0.000 | Putamen | Putamen | Putamen | Left |
| -30 26 4 7.86 0.000 | 13 | Insula | Ant. Insula | Left |
| -9 16 4 8.53 0.000 | Medial dorsal nucleus | Thalamus | Thalamus | Left |
| 51 -4 31 19.07 0.000 | 6 | Post central | Precentral gyrus | Right |
| 60 -1 22 18.41 0.000 | 6, 4 | Post central | Precentral gyrus | Right |
| 21 11 1 9.65 0.000 | Putamen | Putamen | Putamen | Right |
| 12 16 4 7.74 0.000 | Medial dorsal nucleus | Thalamus | Thalamus | Right |
| 45 20 22 6.44 0.000 | 9 | Inf. Frontal Tri | Inf. Frontal Op | Right |
| 48 31 49 5.75 0.000 | 40 | Post central | Supramarginal gyrus | Right |
| 21 58 7 4.92 0.010 | 30 | Calcarine | Precuneus | Right |
| 51 14 11 4.95 0.041 | 13 | Temporal pole sup. | Temporal pole | Right |
| 36 29 1 4.57 0.046 | 13 | Inf. Frontal Tri | Inf. Frontal Orb | Right |
| 0 22 17 6.43 0.000 | Red Nucleus | Unknown | Left ventral |
| -33 85 -8 20.38 0.000 | 19 | Inf. Occipital gyrus | Inf. Occipital gyrus | Left |
| -36 26 1 7.31 0.000 | 13 | Inf. Frontal Tri | Frontal operculum | Left |
| -27 -4 -5 7.14 0.000 | Putamen | Putamen | Putamen | Left |
| -21 14 -2 6.65 0.000 | Putamen | Putamen | Putamen | Left |
| -9 16 4 5.9 0.000 | Medial dorsal nucleus | Thalamus | Thalamus | Left |
| -6 - - 4.95 0.009 | Red nucleus | Para | ventral DC | Left |
| X | Y | Z | p | MNI Coordinates | ROI | Hemisphericity |
|---|---|---|---|------------------|-----|----------------|
| -6 | 73 | 13 | 4.63 | 0.032 | 18, 30 | Calcarine, Calcarine | Left |
| 36 | 82 | -5 | 20.34 | 0.000 | 18, 19 | Inf. Occipital gyrus, Inf. Occipital gyrus | Right |
| 27 | 2 | -5 | 18.75 | 0.000 | Putamen, Putamen, Putamen | Right |
| 6 | 22 | 17 | 5.74 | 0.000 | Red nucleus, Unknown, ventral DC | Right |
| 39 | 20 | 25 | 5.44 | 0.001 | 9 | Inf. Frontal Tri, Middle frontal gyrus | Right |
| 9 | 16 | 4 | 5.1 | 0.004 | Medial dorsal nucleus, Thalamus, Thalamus | Right |
| 12 | 82 | 40 | 4.67 | 0.027 | 19, 18 | Cuneus, Cuneus | Right |
Supplementary figure 1. Control group

a. Functional MRI Naming task

b. DCM connections