

CONCEPT OF LANGUAGE SYSTEM AND LAYERS OF LANGUAGE

02-10-2020

The goal guides the activity of the system and serves as a factor combining elements into a system

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the activity of the system

and serves as a factor
combining elements into a system

Linguistics versus Applied Linguistics

CHECK



YOURSELF!

Sorts of Linguistics

CHECK



YOURSELF!

Groups, families and branches of languages

CHECK



YOURSELF!

Comparative Linguistics Stages

CHECK



YOURSELF!

F. de Saussure or W. von Humboldt?

Chess metaphor	Organon , super-human spirit and energy metaphors
Signs are made by men	Signs are made by men
Signs are arbitrary	Signs are expressive tools
Signs are just conventional	Signs carry a message, an imprint of wisdom
Language is a conventional system of conventional signs	Every language is special
Language is a system of rules, elements and values	Language is a system of meaning construction based on its special inner form

Wilhelm von Humboldt antinomies

antinomy [æn'tɪnəmi] (pl. antinomies)

is a contradiction between two beliefs or conclusions that are in themselves reasonable; a paradox

Origin: late 16th cent. (in the sense 'a conflict between two laws'): from Latin *antinomia*, from Greek, from *anti* 'against' + *nomos* 'law.'

Wilhelm von Humboldt antinomies

Wilhelm von Humboldt singled out and highlighted a fistful of antinomies of Language

1.the antinomy of language and thought /thinking / idea or mental activity;

2.the antinomy of the arbitrariness of the sign and the motivation of the elements of the language;

3.the antinomy of the objective and the subjective in language;

Wilhelm von Humboldt antinomies

Wilhelm von Humboldt singled out and highlighted a fistful of antinomies of Language

4.the antinomy of language as an activity and as a product of activity,

5.the antinomy of stability and movement in the language,

6.the antinomy of the whole and the singular (a one-of-a-kind) in the language,

Wilhelm von Humboldt antinomies

Wilhelm von Humboldt singled out and highlighted a fistful of antinomies of Language

7.the antinomy of the individual and the collective in language,

8.the antinomy of language and speech,

9.the antinomy of understanding and not-understanding / misunderstanding

L???

LANGUAGE SYSTEM

A language is a structured system of communication.

Language, in a broader sense, is the **method** of communication that involves the use of – particularly human – languages.)))

L???

HMM... HUMAN LANGUAGES

The gorilla Koko reportedly used as many as 1000 words in American Sign Language, and understands 2000 words of spoken English.

So learn English competitively...)))

F/S

LANGUAGE SYSTEM

Language is a complex functional system aimed at providing relationship and communication between people.

F/S

LANGUAGE SYSTEM

Elements of a **functional system** are combined into an **organizational whole for a specific purpose**.

In order to achieve **the goal**, each **element** performs its own **specified function**.

L/L

UNITS AND LEVELS OF LANGUAGE:

1.1. The Language System is a **holistic entity**, consisting of interdependent units and their relationships.

1.2. **Language levels** and **language units**.

1.3. The invariant-variant nature of language units.

1.4. Types of relations of language units of one level.

L/L

LANGUAGE SYSTEM

Certain groupings may be highlighted in the system elements. These are minor systems / or “subsystems”.

Some systems are related **hierarchically**, i.e. based on a relationship of submission. Other systems operate in parallel.

L/L

LANGUAGE SYSTEM

Each *subsystem* provides a particular **result**, without which it is impossible to complete the task of the linguistic system as a whole.

L/L

LANGUAGE SYSTEM

The subsystems of the language include the system of phonemes, the system of morphemes and other subsystems with their own subsystems systems.

L/L

THE CONCEPT OF SYSTEM AND LANGUAGE LAYERS / OR 'LEVELS'

Levels of language are actually subsystems of a common language system. Each is characterized by a combination of relatively homogeneous units and a set of rules, good for grouping them into various classes and subclasses.

THE CONCEPT OF SYSTEM AND LANGUAGE LAYERS / OR 'LEVELS

Culture	Language of Values
Communicative Event / Text / Discourse / Genre / Interaction construction	<i>Etic</i> : Real life episodes of communication. <i>Emic</i> ['i:mIk]: Schemata of communication.
Syntactic	Schemes / Schemata of message construction
Lexical	Independent meaningful units
Morphological	Minimal (bound) signs / signification units
Phonological	Distinctive, differentiating and accumulative functions

E/E

emic [' i : mɪk] versus etic [' ɛtɪk]

Термины ввел лингвист К. Пайк (Kenneth Lee Pike) по аналогии с термином phonetic).

Kenneth Lee Pike (1912 –31-XII, 2000)

emic ['i:mIk];
etic ['ɛtIk]

occurrence [ə'kʌr(ə)n(t)s]

E/E

The invariant-variant nature of language units

"Emic units" (invariants) and "etic units" (variations, occurrences).

Relations of realization (representation, manifestation) between **specific units** (variations) and abstract schemata – **invariants**.

emic ['i:mIk];

occurrence [ə'kʌr(ə)n(t)s]

etic ['ɛtIk]

E/E

The invariant-variant nature of language units

Etic ['etik] 1. Relating to or denoting an approach to the study or description of a particular language or culture that is general, nonstructural, and objective in its perspective. Often contrasted with emic

2. Etics - study adopting this approach

Origin: 1950s: abstracted from phonetic.

Study adopting this approach is 'emics'

E/E

emic ['i:mIk]

emic ['i:mIk] - describing a particular language or culture in terms of its internal elements and their functioning rather than in terms of any existing external scheme
Often contrasted with *etic*.

Origin: 1950s: abstracted from such words as phonemic (see phoneme) and systemic.

Study adopting this approach is 'etics'

E/E

etic ['ɛtɪk]

etic ['ɛtɪk] (adjective) – studying or describing a particular language or culture in a way that is general, non-structural, and objective in its perspective

Often contrasted with emic

Origin: 1950s: abstracted from phonetic

Study adopting this approach is 'etics'

E/E

etic ['etik]

etic “этический” - уровень, предполагающий описание языковых единиц с внешней, “абсолютной” точки зрения;

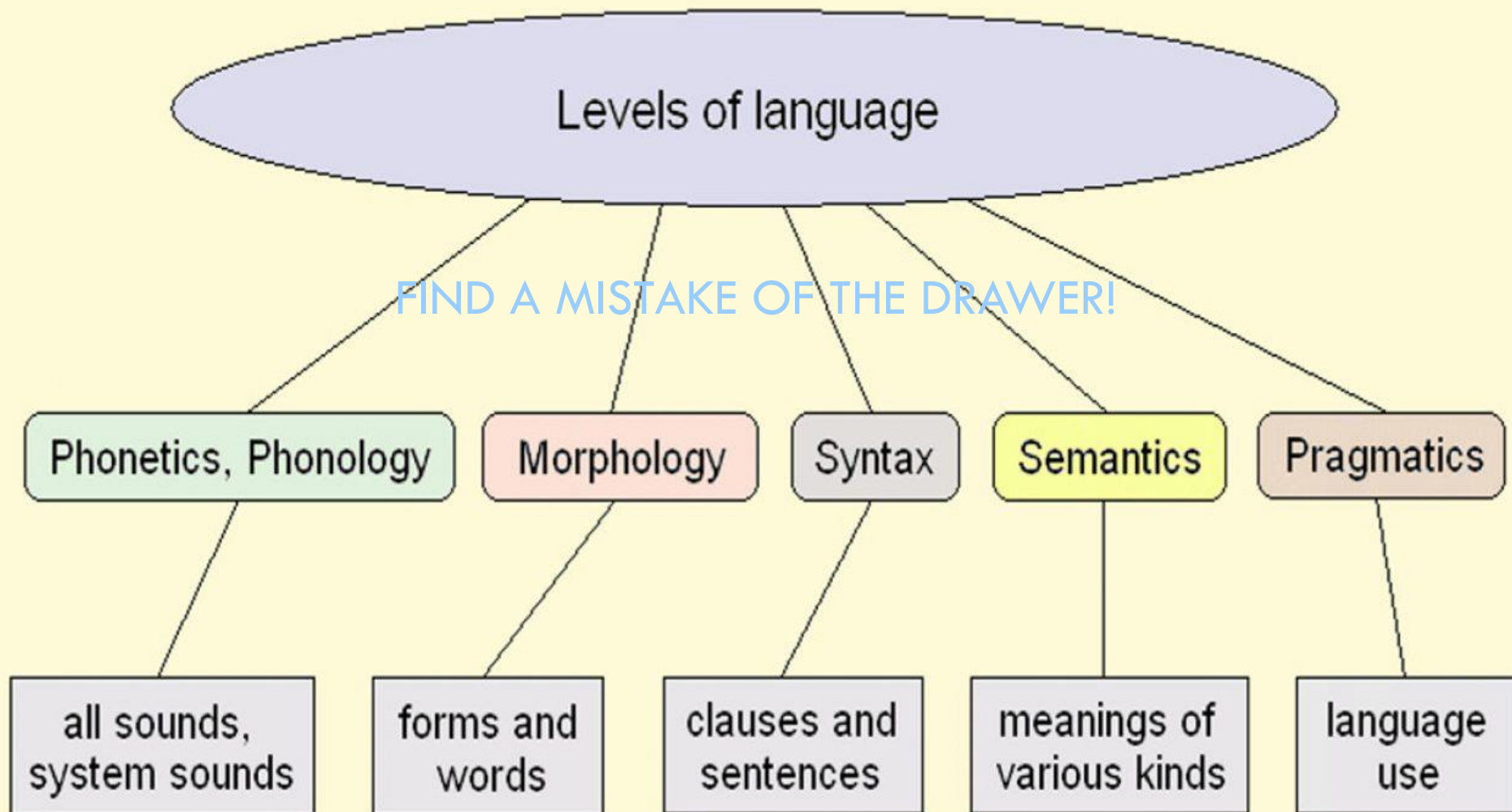
Study adopting this approach is 'etics'

E/E

etic ['etik]

При этом в область зрения попадают все свойства языковой единицы, в том числе обусловленные спецификой материального субстрата языка, а также случайные и несущественные, нерелевантные для языковой системы, напр., звуковой фон;

Bottom-up approach to linguistic analysis



Bottom-up approach to linguistic analysis

○ 1

1) Phonetics, Phonology

This is the level of sounds. One must distinguish here the set of possible human sounds, which constitutes the area of phonetics proper, and the set of system sounds used in a given human language, which constitutes the area of phonology.

Bottom-up approach to linguistic analysis

○ 1

1) Phonetics, Phonology

"Most languages are transmitted by sounds and one of the most obvious differences between languages is that they sound different. The study of the sounds that human beings make in their languages is known as phonetics."

The Handbook of Applied Linguistics / Edited by Alan Davies and Catherine Elder © 2004 by Blackwell Publishing Ltd.

Minimal pairs method to elicit phonemes

- 1 the linguist choose two words of a given language, having different meaning but differing only by one sound, the rest being identical.
- 2 the linguist check that all words differing in these two same sounds have different meanings

Minimal pairs method to elicit phonemes

- 1 3 the two sounds are declared to **make a minimal pair** and each sound is said to be, in this language (only) :
 - a phoneme** (in naive theories of the phoneme, they are sounds)
 - a phone**, i.e. one of the possible actuation of a phoneme (in more elaborate theories, phonemes are not sounds, but **'collections of sounds'**)
- In the world of linguistics, you can find many definitions of phonemes. Linguists don't seem to worry about this variety. Actually when they start a new book, they just add a new definition, theirs.

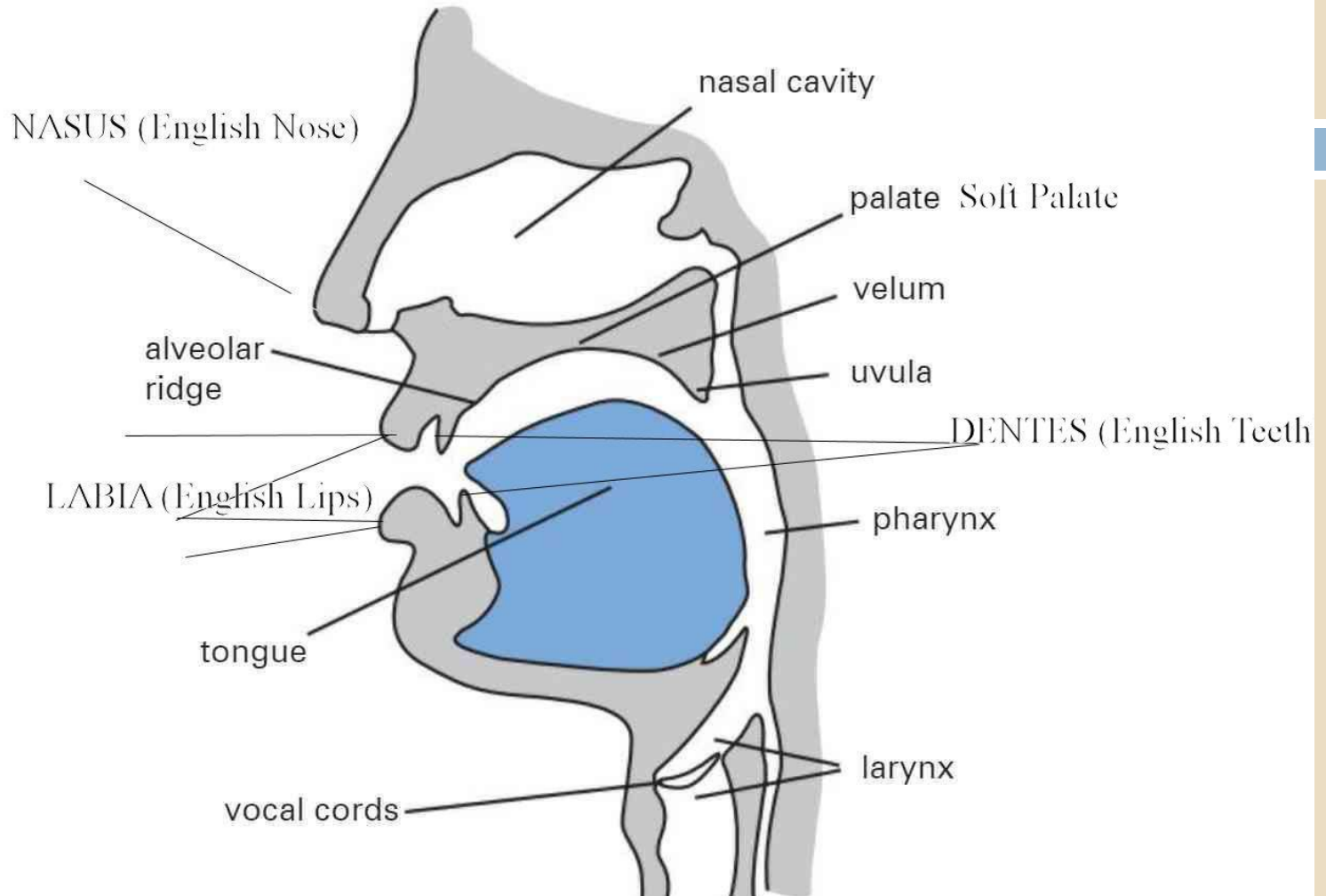
Minimal pairs method to elicit phonemes

- 1 One can determine what are the phonemes of a particular language by comparing vocabulary in that language. If the two words differ by **only one sound and have different meanings**, then the two sounds which contrast are **phonemes** in that language.
For example, because “**bit**” and “**beet**” are different words in English, one can know that the short “i” and the “ee” sound are two phonemes of English. Such a pair of words is called a **“minimal pair.”**

Minimal pairs method to elicit phonemes

- 1 Another example is “bit” and “pit” which tell you that “b” and “p” are different phonemes in English. One caution: spelling does not always reflect the sounds of a language accurately, and phonemes are determined in terms of sound; ignore spelling.

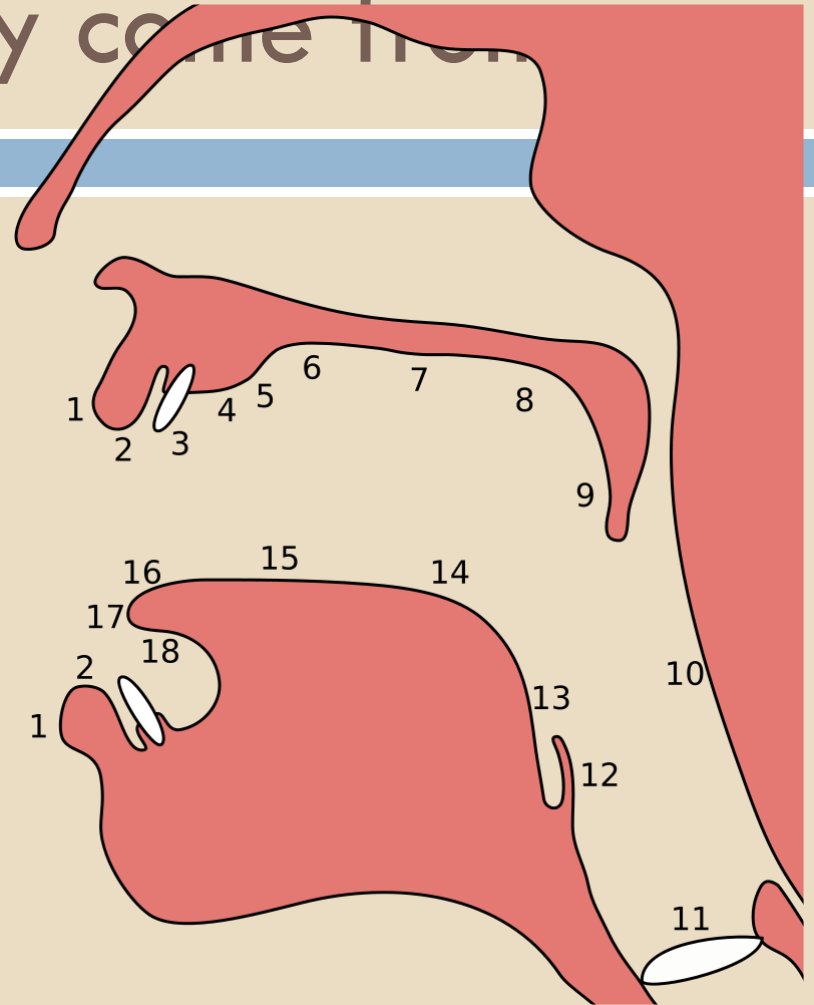
ar



and where do they come from

Passive and active places of articulation:

- (1) *Exo-labial*;
- (2) *Endo-labial*;
- (3) *Dental*;
- (4) *Alveolar*;
- (5) *Post-alveolar*;
- (6) *Pre-palatal*;
- (7) *Palatal*;
- (8) *Velar*;
- (9) *Uvular*;
- (10) *Pharyngeal*; (11) *Glottal*;
- (12) *Epiglottal*; (13) *Radical*; (14) *Postero-dorsal*; (15) *Antero-dorsal*; (16) *Laminal*;
- (17) *Apical*; (18) *Sub-apical or sub-laminal*.



What Is The International Phonetic Alphabet?

- The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) is an academic standard created by the **International Phonetic Association**.
- IPA is a phonetic notation system that uses a set of symbols to represent **each distinct sound** that exists in human spoken language.
- **It encompasses all languages spoken on earth.**

What Is The International Phonetic Alphabet?

- The system was created in 1886 and was last updated in 2005.

It consists of

107 letters,

52 diacritics, /, daɪə'krɪtɪk/

and four prosodic marks.

Bottom-up approach to linguistic analysis

- 1 The extinct Ubykh language had the largest consonant inventory (more than any other known language) standing at 84 in total.
Pirahã language is claimed to have 10 to 12 phonemes (tones included)
Rotokas language is claimed to have 11 only.

Bottom-up approach to linguistic analysis

○ 1

Taa /'tɑ:/, also known as !Xóõ /'koʊ/ (also spelled !Khong and !Xoon; Taa pronunciation: [!χõ:ʔ]) is a Tuu language notable for its large number of phonemes, perhaps the largest in the world. It is also notable for having perhaps the heaviest functional load of click consonants, with one count finding that 82% of basic vocabulary items started with a click. Most speakers live in Botswana, but a few hundred live in Namibia. The Tuu languages are one of the three traditional language families that make up the Khoisan languages.

phonetics [fə'netɪks]

Phonetics is the general study of the characteristics of speech sounds.

Articulatory [ɑ:'tɪkjʊlət(ə)ri, ɑ: ,tɪkjʊ'leɪt(ə)ri] **phonetics** is the study of how speech sounds are made / articulated.

Acoustic phonetics is the study of physical properties of speech as sound waves.

Auditory phonetics /perceptual phonetics is the study of the perception of [speech] sounds via the ear.

phonetics [fə'netɪks]

Phonetics and Phonology

Functional phonetics

/=phonology!/ studies the functions of sounds in the language as a phonemes based system.

Phonetics is the general study of
the characteristics of speech sounds.

Functional phonetics

/=phonology!/ studies the functions of sounds in the language as a phonemes based system.

Bottom-up approach to linguistic analysis

- 1 **Phonology** [fə'nɒlədʒɪ] is concerned with classifying the sounds of language and with saying how the subset used in a particular language is utilised, for instance what **distinctions** in meaning can be made on the basis of what sounds:
(e.g. [wɜ:k] - [wɔ:k]; ['bʌtə] – ['bɪtə] – ['betə]; [klʌb] – [bʌlk]; ['prəʊgres] – [prə'gres] etc.).

Bottom-up approach to linguistic analysis

- 1 **prosody** ['prɒsədi] studies try to explain how **melody** is used to create meaning.
 - the patterns of stress and intonation in a language;
 - the theory or study of these patterns, or the rules governing them

Bottom-up approach to linguistic analysis

2) Morphology

This is the level of words and endings, to put it in simplified terms. It is what one normally understands by grammar (along with syntax). The term morphology refers to the analysis of minimal forms in language which are, however, themselves comprised of sounds and which are used to construct words which have either a **grammatical** or a **lexical** function.

Bottom-up approach to linguistic analysis

3) Lexicology is concerned with the study of the lexicon from a formal point of view and is thus closely linked to (derivational) morphology.

Bottom-up approach to linguistic analysis

4) Syntax

This is the level of sentences. It is concerned with the meaning of words in combination with each other to form phrases or sentences. In particular it involves differences in meaning arrived at by changes in word order, the addition or subtraction of words from sentences or changes in the form of sentences. It furthermore deals with the relatedness of different sentence types and with the analysis of ambiguous sentences.

Bottom-up approach to linguistic analysis

Language typology attempts to classify languages according to high-order principles of morphology and syntax and to make sets of **generalisations** across different languages irrespective of their genetic affiliations, i.e. of what language family they belong to.

Bottom-up approach to linguistic analysis

Linguistic typology is a branch of linguistics that attempts to categorize languages based on similarities in structure (phonological inventories, grammatical constructions, word order, etc.)

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

Isolating, Analytic, Synthetic, Agglutinative, and Fusional



MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

Isolating, Analytic, Synthetic, Agglutinative, and Fusional

Students'



Version

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T Analytic and Synthetic Languages

From the XIX century, all inflexional languages were divided into two big groups:

Synthetic Ukrainian, Russian, German, Polish, Czech, Byelorussian languages

and Analytic languages:

English, French, Bulgarian, Danish, Hindi languages belong to the second one.

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T Analytic and Synthetic Languages

The **synthetic languages** are the languages where the grammatical meaning expresses with the help of the **endings, affixes, alternations** (or simply the sound changing), **suppletion** (for example, in some Slavic languages there is imperfective and perfective form of words).

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T Analytic and Isolating Languages

- ❑ Isolating languages are “purely analytic” and allow no affixation (inflectional or derivational) at all.

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T Analytic and Isolating Languages

- ❑ A canonically analytic language is Mandarin Chinese. Note that properties such as “plural” and “past” comprise their own morphemes and their own words.
- ❑ [wɔ mən tan tʃin lə]
- ❑ 1st PLR play piano PST
- ❑ ‘we played the piano’

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T

Synthetic Languages

- ❑ Synthetic languages allow affixation such that words may (though are not required to) include two or more morphemes.
- ❑ These languages have **bound morphemes**, meaning they must be attached to another word (whereas analytic languages only have **free morphemes**).

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T

Synthetic Languages

- ❑ Synthetic languages include three subcategories:
- ❑ agglutinative, fusional, and polysynthetic.

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T Agglutinative = “beads on a string”

- ❑ **Agglutinative** [ə'glu:tɪnətɪv] **languages.**
- ❑ **1: many word to morpheme ratio** ['reɪʃɪθu];
- ❑ **1:1 morpheme to meaning ratio** ['reɪʃɪθu];
- ❑ ni-na-soma (Swahili) [swɑ:'hi:lɪ]
- ❑ I-present-read = ‘I am reading’
- ❑ u-na-soma = ‘you are reading,’
- ❑ ni-li-soma = ‘I read,’ etc.)

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T Fusional languages /['fju:ʒ(ə)n]

- ❑ Fusional languages may have morphemes that combine multiple pieces of grammatical information; that is, there is not a clear 1 to 1 relationship between grammatical information and morphemes.
- ❑ Latin “AM-O” = “I love”
- ❑ O=Present Indicative, Active. 1st person Singular (5 pieces of information per one)

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T Fusional languages /['fju:ʒ(ə)n]

For example, in Spanish:

- ❑ ['abl-o] 'I am speaking' -[o] suffix means 1st person sng., present tense
- ❑ ['abl-a] 's/he is speaking' -[a] suffix means 3rd person sng. present tense
- ❑ [abl-'o] 's/he spoke' -['o] suffix with stress means 3rd singular past tense

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T

Polysynthetic [pɒlɪsɪnˈθetɪk] language

- ❑ polysynthetic languages may have words with multiple stems in a single word (which are not compounds). This may be achieved by incorporating the subject and object nouns into complex verb forms.

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T

Polysynthetic [pɒlɪsɪnˈθetɪk] language

- ❑ For example:
- ❑ **anin- ʎam-ɟɔ-te-n**
- ❑ = he-catch-fish-nonpast-do
- ❑ = ‘he is fish-catching’
- ❑ This is called **noun incorporation**, where the object ‘fish’ is incorporated in the verb ‘catch.

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T

Polysynthetic [pɒlɪsɪnˈθetɪk] language

Some of the most extreme examples come from Eskimo languages such as West Greenlandic:

tusaa-nngit-su-usaar-tuaannar-sinnaa-nngi-vip-putit

= ‘hear’-neg.-intrans.participle-‘pretend’-‘all the time’-‘can’-neg.- ‘really’-2 nd.sng.indicative

i.e. **‘You simply cannot pretend not to be hearing all the time’**

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T Types of languages: Yes, but...

Languages often show elements of different morphological types.

If a language is hard to classify as one of the four main types, it may be considered “mixed.”

The properties that distinguish these types may in fact be **gradient** ['greɪdɪənt] rather than **categorical** [ˌkætə'gɔːrɪk((ə)l)].

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T Types of languages: Yes, but...

How many morphemes can occur in a single word?



MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T Types of languages: Yes, but...

Are the morphemes easy to divide?

yes, easy to divide



agglutinative
(or possibly polysynthetic)

no, hard to divide, morphemes
contain multiple bits of
grammatical information



fusional or
polysynthetic

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T Types of languages: Yes, but...

Does the language allow words with multiple roots (such as noun incorporation)?

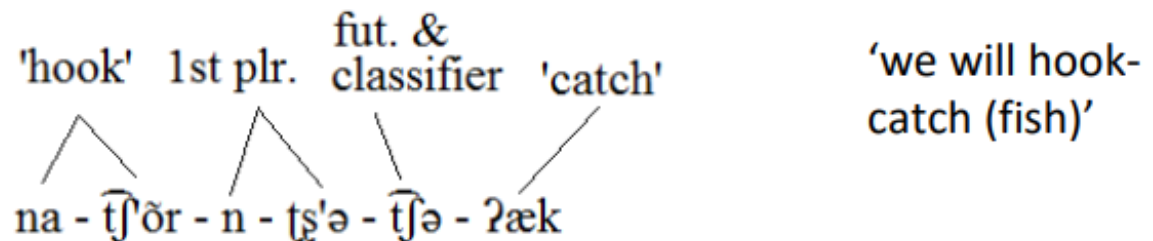
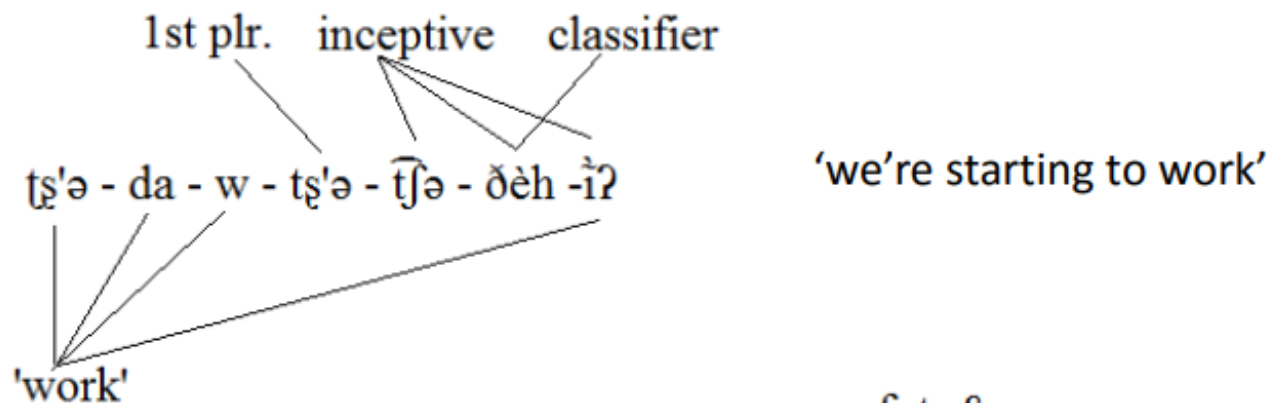
If yes, the language is likely polysynthetic!

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T

Categorize the language!

- Han (Athabascan)



MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T

Categorize the language!

- Ancient Greek •

[lu-o:] 'I release' • release-1 st person singular
present active indicative

[lu-e:] 'You should release' • release-2nd person
singular present middle subjunctive

[lu:-etai] 'he is being released'

= release-3 rd person singular present passive
indicative

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T

Categorize the language!

Aztec ['az,tek]

- [ni-ki-ta] = 'I see it' = I-it-see
- [ni-ki-ta-k] = 'I saw it' = I-it-see-past

MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

T

Categorize the language!

English

- A. 'The boy will play with the dog.'
- B. 'John's cat eats mice.'
- C. 'antidisestablishmentarianism'

Bottom-up approach to linguistic analysis

5) Semantics

This is the area of meaning. It might be thought that semantics is covered by the areas of morphology and syntax, but it is quickly seen that this level needs to be studied on its own to have a proper **perspective on meaning in language.**

Here one touches, however, on practically every other level of language as well as there exists lexical, grammatical, sentence and utterance meaning.

Bottom-up approach to linguistic analysis

6) Pragmatics The concern here is with the use of language in specific situations.

The *meaning of sentences* need not be the same in an abstract form and in practical use. In the latter case one speaks of **utterance meaning**. The area of pragmatics relies strongly for its analyses on the notion of **speech act** which is concerned with the actual performance of language. This involves the notion of **proposition** – roughly the **content of a sentence** – and (then?) the **intent** and **effect** of an utterance.

Communicative situation; frames, scripts and scenarios; the gives and takes of the Speaker's communicative initiative. Felicitous Conditions. Linguistic fingerprint.

Stages of utterance production and processing:
Invention; censorship;
elocution; locution;
illocution; per-locution.

What is pragmatics?

Language in context;
Cultural values;
shared knowledges;
dialogue;
negotiating meaning.



Geoffrey Leech
Politeness principle:

- 1 The tact maxim;
 - 2 The generosity maxim;
 - 3 The approbation maxim;
 - 4 The modesty maxim;
 - 5 The agreement maxim;
 - 6 The sympathy maxim.
- Politeness; indirectness;
Speech tactics; FTA;
Positive and negative politeness etc.

Gricean Cooperative Principle;
Speakers statuses and roles;
Algorithms of Conversation;
small talk; turn-taking; strategic approach; speech rituals.

Presupposition; implication; Inference; Implicature; Deduction rules;
Rhetoric structure; logical operations; knowledges; expectations; settings;

0

BASIC LANGUAGE LAYERS

- 1) phoneme – so-called one-sided units
- 2) morphemic - the smallest signs
- 3) lexical (verbal) - the word has a positional and syntactic independence.
- 4) syntactic (sentence level) – can perform a full-fledged meaningful utterance.

0

BASIC LANGUAGE LAYERS

- ❑ -eme suffix
- ❑ Linguistics: forming nouns denoting linguistic units that are in systemic contrast with one other:
grapheme; phoneme; morpheme; lexeme
- ❑ Origin: abstracted from phoneme

1

BASIC LANGUAGE LAYERS

- ❑ The basic linguistic unit of the language *sound system* is called a phoneme.
- ❑ Phoneme is a minimal, contrastive sound unit that distinguishes one utterance from another.

1

BASIC LANGUAGE LAYERS

- ❑ Now a question like bolt from the blue... What about diphthongs ['dɪfθɔŋ]?
- ❑ Is there an alternative to phoneme?
- ❑ Are there syllabic languages or only syllabic writing systems?
[sɪ'ləbɪk 'læŋgwɪdʒɪz]

1

What about writing?

Grapheme

In linguistics, a grapheme is "the smallest functional unit of a writing system".

[Coulmas, F. (1996),

The Blackwell's Encyclopedia of Writing Systems.

Oxford: Blackwells, p.174].

PS Grapheme is not necessarily a letter!

2

BASIC LANGUAGE LAYERS

- ❑ The basic unit of **the meaning system** is called a morpheme.
- ❑ Morpheme is the smallest meaningful unit in a language.

2 WORD STRUCTURE ANALYSIS

The basic unit of the morphemic level is the **morpheme** defined as the smallest indivisible two-facet language unit.

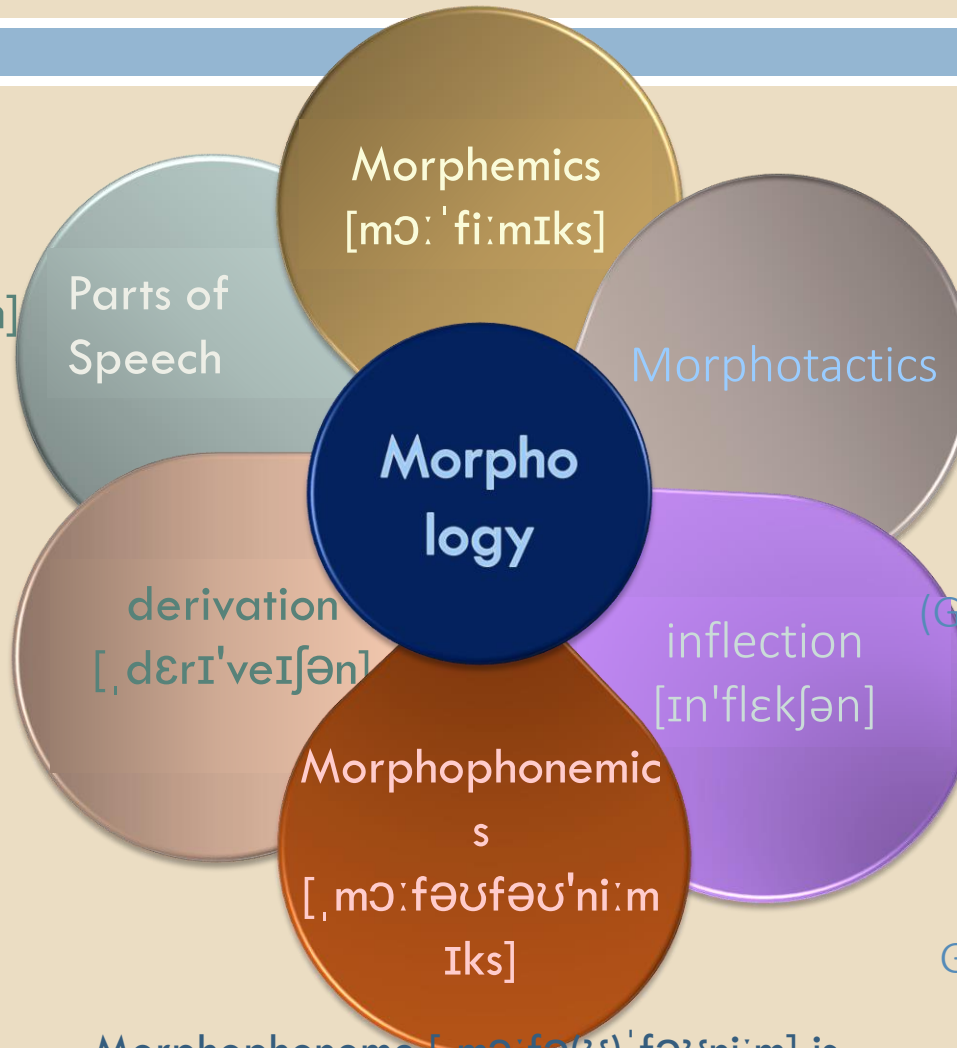
There are two kinds (or levels) of approach to the study of **word-structure**: the one of morphemic analysis and the one of **derivational or word-formation analysis**.

English parts of speech
are Noun, Pronoun,
Verb, Adjective, Article,
Adverb, Preposition,
Conjunction.

Morphemics [mɔ:'fi:mɪks] is the
study of word structure in terms
of minimal meaningful units

Morphotactics:
Base & affixes:
Prefix, circumfix,
inter-fix, simul-fix,
infix, postfix, affix,
supra-fix.
Make an English word
with two details:
-er- and -ing-

Derivation [ˌdɛrɪ'veɪʃən]
the act of deriving or
state of being derived;
the source, origin, or
descent of something,
such as a word
Root – stem – affix;



inflection [ɪn'flekʃən]
or inflexion
(Grammar) a change in
the form of a word,
Go- went –gone;
I am going;
You are going;
We are going....
Good - better – best...

Poor [puə] , poverty
[ˈpɒvəti] - are the
allomorphs of one
morpheme /constitute the
various allomorphs of a
morpheme morpheme;

Morphophoneme [ˌmɔ:fəʊ(ʊ)'fəʊni:m] is
the set of phonemes or sequences of phonemes that constitute the
various allomorphs of a morpheme;

3

BASIC LANGUAGE LAYERS

□ Lexeme ['lɛksɪ:m] can be represented in various word-forms /word – word-s/ and sometimes – **in word variations:**

tomato BR [tə'mɑ:təʊ];

tomato AM [təmə'toʊ, AM -meɪ-]

3

BASIC LANGUAGE LAYERS

□ word variations:

garage ['gɑrɑ:(d)ʒ, -ɪdʒ, gə'rɑ:ʒ];

genre [ʒɑŋrə]; ['ʒɔ̃rə, '(d)ʒɒnrə];

tomato BR [təmə'toʊ, AM -meɪ-];

There are also allographs ['æləʊgrɑ:f]:

AM gray [greɪ] = grey; BR grey [greɪ]

3

BASIC LANGUAGE LAYERS

- ❑ Lexeme ['lɛksɪ:m] is a basic lexical unit of a language consisting of one word or several words, the elements of which do not separately convey the meaning of the whole: GO – WENT – GONE
- ❑ These three types present 3 allologs
- ❑ Origin: 1940s: from lexicon + -eme

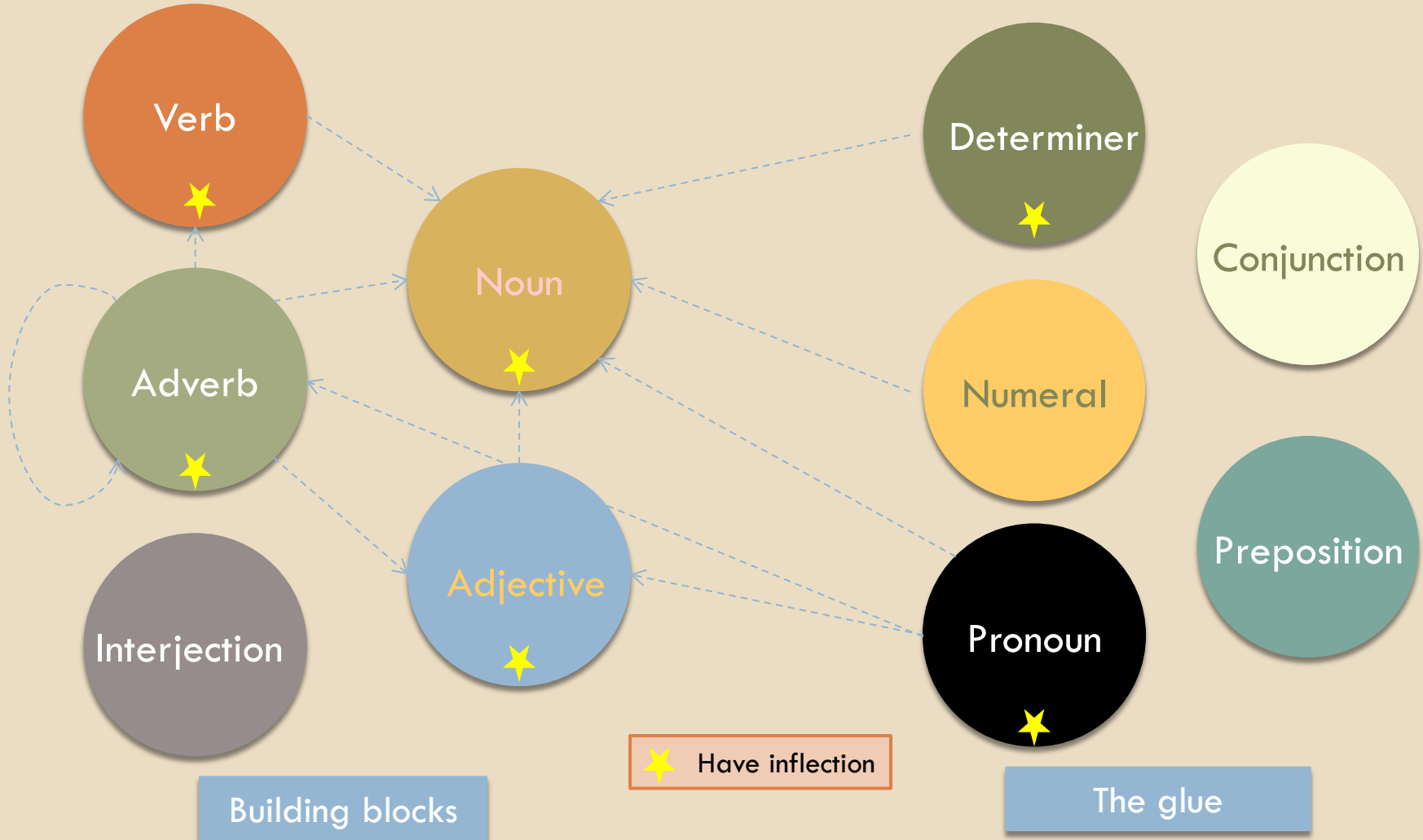
Word classes & inflection

Open class

(content / lexical / autosemantic words)

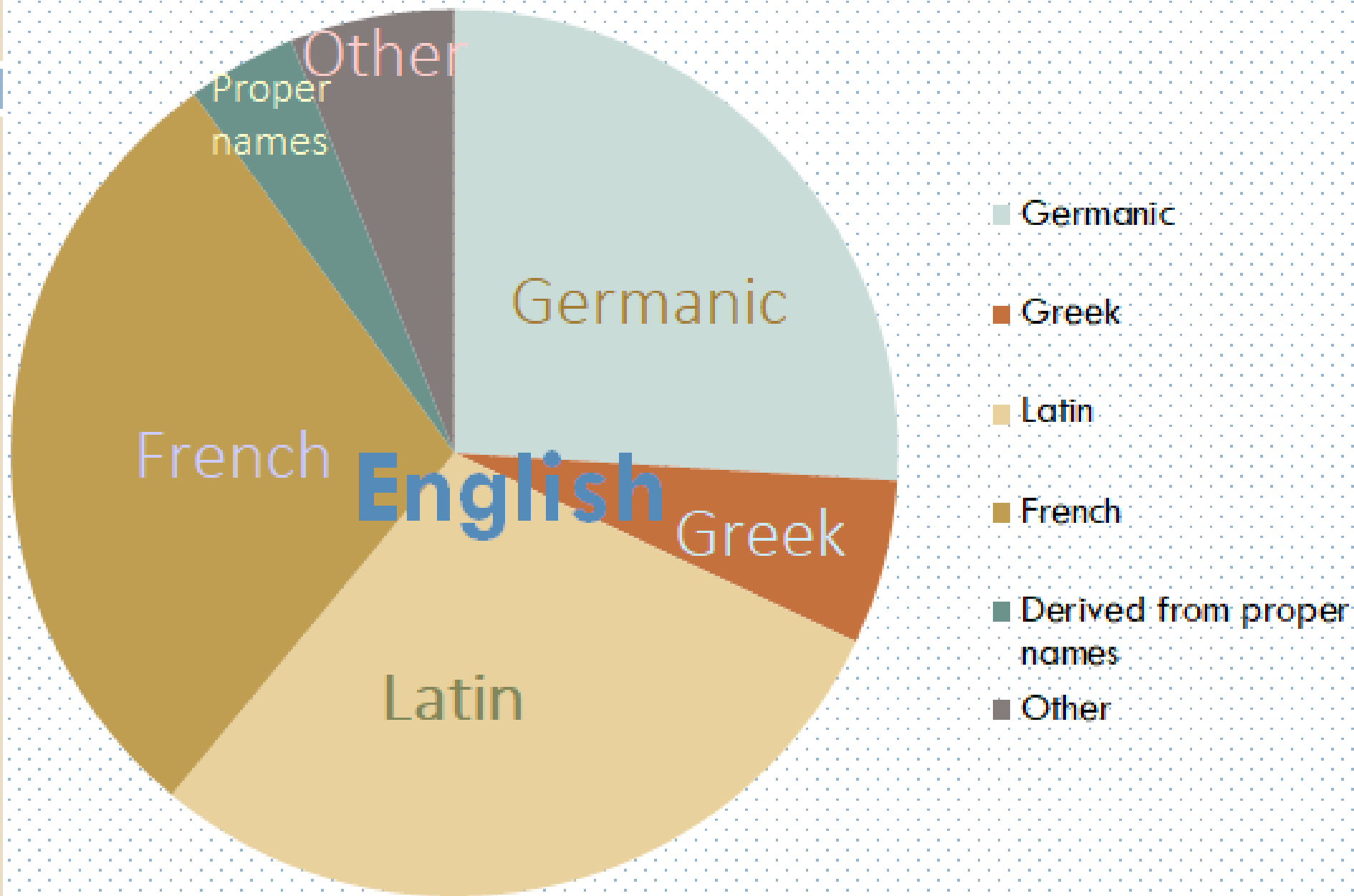
Closed class

(Function / structure words)





How much English is English?



Syntax ['sɪntæks]

When we concentrate on the structure and ordering of components within a sentence, we are studying the syntax of a language.

The word “syntax” comes originally from **Greek** and literally means “a putting together” or “arrangement.”

Syntax ['sɪntæks]

When we set out to provide an analysis of the syntax of a language, we try to adhere to the “all and only” criterion. So we might do better with a rule stating that we put a preposition before a noun phrase (not just a noun).

Syntax ['sɪntæks]

A **noun phrase** can consist of a proper noun (London), a pronoun (you) or a combination of an article (a, the) and a noun (tree, dog), so that the revised rule can produce these well-formed structures:

*near London, with you, near a tree,
with the dog.*

Syntax ['sɪntæks]

When we have an effective rule such as “a prepositional phrase in English consists of a preposition followed by a noun phrase,” we can imagine an extremely large number of English phrases that could be produced using this rule.

Syntax ['sɪntæks]

This type of grammar should also be capable of revealing the basis of two miraculous [mɪ'rækjʊləs] phenomena:

- I. first, how some superficially different sentences are closely related and,
- II. second, how some superficially similar sentences are in fact different.

- *That's funny what you say! ...*

- *It isn't funny what you say! ...*

Syntax ['sɪntæks]

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- *That's funny what you say! ...*

- *It isn't funny what you say! ...*

Syntactic Typological systems

Word order:

Subject–verb–object positioning

One set of types reflects the basic order of subject, verb, and direct object in sentences:

Object–subject–verb

Object–verb–subject

Subject–verb–object

Subject–object–verb

Verb–subject–object

Verb–object–subject

4

BASIC LANGUAGE LAYERS

4) syntactic (sentence level): sentence appears as an abstract scheme, the components of which are syntactic categories such as so named parts of sentence (Subject, Predicate, Object etc.).

S/P

SYNTAGM AND PARADIGM

reflects Capability of a Linguistic Unit to enter into **paradigmatic** [ˌpærəθɪg'mætɪk] and **syntagmatic** [ˌsɪntəg'mætɪk] [ˌsɪntæg'mætɪk] relationships only with units of the same language level – or level of language analysis.

paradigm ['pærədaɪm]

P SYNTAGM AND PARADIGM

paradigmatic [pærə'dɪg'matɪk] – of or denoting the relationship between a set of linguistic items that form mutually exclusive choices in particular syntactic roles.

Contrasted with syntagmatic

syntagm ['sɪntəm];
syntagma /sɪn'tægmə/

S

SYNTAGM AND PARADIGM

syntagmatic [,sɪntəg'mætɪk] – of or denoting the relationship between two or more linguistic units used sequentially to make well-formed structures;

syntagm ['sɪntəm];
syntagma /sɪn 'tæɡmə/

S SYNTAGM AND PARADIGM

syntagmatic [,sɪntəɡ 'mætɪk] –
a linguistic unit consisting of a set of
linguistic forms (phonemes, words, or
phrases) that are in a sequential
relationship to one another.

syntagm [ˈsɪntəm];
syntagma /sɪnˈtæɡmə/

S



Syntactic analysis in morphology belongs to the subfield of **morphotactics**, treating stems and affixes prefixes, inter-fixes, and postfixes.

prefixes, root words, & suffixes

word	prefix & meaning		root & meaning		suffix & meaning	
	independently	in	not, without	dependent	to rely on another	ly
reliability	re	back, again	liable	responsible	ity	state of
rapidly	-	-	rapid	quickly	ly	characterized by
multitasked	multi	many	task	a piece of work to be done or undertaken	ed	forming the past participle of
disappeared	dis	the opposite of, not	appear	the way that something or someone looks	ed	forming the past participle
rider	-	-	ride	sit on and control the movement of	er	one who
impossible	im	not	possible	able to be done	ible	is, can be

prefix-A prefix is added to the beginning of a base or root word to change its

syntagm ['sɪntəm]

S

Syntactic structures

/ patterns of language

English admits presence of phone /ŋ/

in the ending

and in the middle of the word-forms,

but not in the beginning

(unlike Vietnamese [vɪ, etnə'mi:z]).

syntagm ['sɪntəm];
syntagma /sɪn'tæɡmə/

S TWO SYNTAGMS AND PARADIGMS

- A. **A cloud approached the hill.**
- B. **The cloud approached a hill.**

syntagm ['sɪntəm];
syntagma /sɪn'tæɡmə/

S

TWO SYNTAGMS AND PARADIGMS

- A. Some people speak just because they have something to say.
- B. Some people speak just because they have to say something.

syntagm ['sɪntəm];
syntagma /sɪn'tægmə/

S TWO SYNTAGMS AND PARADIGMS

- A. He stopped to smoke.
- B. He stopped smoking.

Utterances, sentences, and propositions

These three terms are used to describe different levels of language. The most concrete is utterance: an utterance is created by speaking (or writing) a piece of language. If I say “Thank you for your advice!”, this is one utterance. If another person in the same room also says that, then we would be dealing with two utterances.

Utterances, sentences, and propositions

Sentences, on the other hand, are abstract grammatical elements obtained from utterances.

In other words, **sentences are abstracted, or generalized, from actual language use.**

Utterances, sentences, and propositions

One further step of abstraction is possible for special purposes: to identify **propositions**. Logicians discovered that certain elements of grammatical information in sentences were irrelevant; for example, the difference between active and passive sentences:

1.17 Caesar invaded Gaul.

1.18 Gaul was invaded by Caesar.

What is semantics?



Semantics is the study of meaning in language. It is a wide subject within the general study of language.

What is semantics?

The study of **semantics** includes the study of how meaning is constructed, interpreted, clarified, obscured, illustrated, simplified, negotiated, contradicted, and paraphrased.

What is semantics?

The noun **semantics** and the adjective **semantic** are derived from the Greek word **semantikos** (“significant”).

In linguistics, semantics is the subfield that is devoted to the study of meaning, as borne on the syntactic levels of words, phrases, sentences, and sometimes larger units of discourse, generically referred to as texts linguistics – texts.

What is semantics?

Some important areas of semantic theory or related subjects include these:

- ✓ Symbol and referent;
- ✓ Conceptions of meaning;
- ✓ Words and lexemes;
- ✓ Denotation, connotation, implication;
- ✓ Pragmatics;
- ✓ Ambiguity;
- ✓ Metaphor, simile and symbol;
- ✓ Semantic fields etc.

What is semantics?

Some important **areas of semantic theory** or related subjects include these:

- ✓ Synonym, antonym and hyponym;
- Collocation, fixed expression and idiom;
- Semantic change and etymology;
- ✓ Polysemy;
- ✓ Homonymy, homophones and homographs
- ✓ Lexicology and lexicography
- ✓ Thesauruses, libraries and Web portals
- ✓ Epistemology
- ✓ Colour.

What is semantics?

Linguistic semantics deals with the conventional meaning conveyed by the use of words and sentences of a language

0 Qualitative upgrade of upper LL:

A move up the level of analysis leads to discovery of a new quality, previously not inherent in a linguistic unit on previous stage of analysis.

[,hɑɪə'rɑ:kɪk((ə)l)]

Intr

Intra-level groupings / subsystems

Intra-level groupings of language units (vowels consonants); (prefixes / suffixes, etc.) **are not level-forming!**

[,hɑɪə'rɑ:kɪk((ə)l)]

0

Inter-level relations

For example, phonemes form classes and combinations in the speech chain only with phonemes, and so on.

0

Inter-level relations

stick strictly to hierarchical type:

a) **consists of ...** (which is a step down)

b) is included in (concerning a step up)

0

Inter-level relations

Hierarchical relationships between units of different levels / layers reflect

- a) relations of occurrence of a lower level unit in a higher level unit ;
- b) capability of higher level unit to **decompose into** units of the neighboring lower level.

0

Inter-level relations

E.G. Phonemes enter the sound shells of morphemes, **morphemes - into words**, words in sentences, ...
and vice versa: **Sentences consist of...**

R High and low reproducibility

Performance and reproducibility
properties of language units differ:

Text ↔ sentence ↔ word
↔ morpheme ↔ phoneme

LC

LEVEL COMPATIBILITY

The main difference between units of different Layers of Language is manifested in *the feature of level compatibility*

[,hɑIə'rɑ:kIk((ə)l)li]

LC

LEVEL COMPATIBILITY

In definite cases in the same sound form can match units of hierarchically different levels of the language.

Latin “I!” (English ‘Go!’)

cumulation [ˌkju:mjə'leɪʃ(ə)n]

Hierarchy of interpretation levels

In definite cases in the same sound form can match units of hierarchically different levels of the language.

Latin “I!” (English ‘Go!’)

cumulation [ˌkjuːmjəˈleɪʃ(ə)n]

C

cumulation [ˌkjuːmjəˈleɪʃ(ə)n]

cumulative [ˈkjuːmjələtɪv]; [kjuːmjʊlətɪv]

– ADJ increasing or increased in quantity, degree, or force by successive additions.

If a series of events have a cumulative effect, each event makes the effect greater.

Syn: joint , combined

H?

Language Layers Hierarchy is questioned in diachrony

Conventionality of separation “upper / lower level” is challenged in diachronic studies of language – a reverse historical course is observed: E.g. the development of morphemes based on lexical units.

[,haɪə'rɑ:kɪk((ə)l)li]

D/S

Synchrony and diachrony

Synchrony and diachrony are two different and **complementary viewpoints** in linguistic analysis.

D/S

Synchrony and diachrony

synchronic [sɪŋ'krɒnɪk] -- concerned with something, especially a language, as it exists at one point in time
synchronic linguistics

Origin: 1920s: from late Latin *synchronus* + *-ic*

[,haɪə'ra:kɪk((ə)l)li]

D/S

Synchrony and diachrony

diachronic [,dʌɪə'krɒnɪk] concerned with the way in which something, especially language, has developed and evolved through time. Derivatives: diachroneity [/,dʌɪəkrə'ni:ɪti, -'neɪɪti] noun diachronically adverb diachronistic [dʌɪ,akrə'nɪstɪk] adjective diachrony [dʌɪ'akrəni] Origin: mid 19th cent.: from dia- 'through' + Greek khronos 'time' + -ic

D/S

Synchrony and diachrony

A synchronic approach (from Greek σΥΝ- "together" and χρόνος "time") considers a language at a moment in time without taking its history into account. Synchronic linguistics aims at describing a language at a specific point of time, usually the present.

Ferdinand de Saussure / ['fɜːdɪnænd], [-d(ə)n-] soʊ 'sjʊər/;
French: /fɛʁdinã də sosyʁ//1857 – 1913/
['sɪŋkrəni] versus [daɪ 'ækʁənɪ];

D/S

Synchrony ['sɪŋkrəni] and diachrony

The concepts were theorized by the Swiss linguist Ferdinand de Saussure, professor of general linguistics in Geneva /dʒɪ'ni:və/ from 1896 to 1911, and appeared in writing in his posthumous Course in General Linguistics published in 1916.

D/S

Synchrony and diachrony

By contrast, a diachronic approach (from δια- "through" and χρόνος "time") considers the development and evolution of a language through history. **Historical linguistics is typically a diachronic study.**

D/S

Synchrony and diachrony

In contrast with most of his predecessors, who focused on historical evolution of languages, Saussure emphasized the primacy of synchronic analysis of languages to understand their inner functioning, though never forgetting the importance of complementary diachrony.

L/L

Basic Language Levels

Basic language layers or levels:

phoneme, morphemic, lexico-semantic,
syntactic levels.

[[,hɑIə'rɑ:kIk((ə)l)li]

L/L

Basic language units

Basic language units:

sentences, words, minimal significant parts of words (morphemes), phonemes.

L/L

Language Levels/Layers

Language level (subsystem of the general language system) as a set of relatively homogeneous units and the rules of grouping into classes.

[,hɑIə'rɑ:kI]

L/L

Language Layers Hierarchy is questioned in diachrony

Language does not add up levels during the course of its development, but is divided into them!!!

L/L

DIFFERENT DEGREES OF COMPLEXITY

characterize the structure of units of different levels.

Functional difference of units of different levels can be viewed as their most important quality characteristic .

H

Language Layers Hierarchy is questioned in diachrony

Take for example a complex syntactic whole, micro-text; period) - a segment of speech in the form of two or more sentences united by a common theme in the semantic frame / or block.



The type–token distinction

The type–token distinction is the difference between naming a class (type) of objects and naming the individual instances (tokens) of that class.

T/T

The type–token distinction

Since each type may be exemplified by multiple tokens, there are generally more tokens than types of an object.



The type–token distinction

For example, the sentence "A rose is a rose is a rose" contains **three word types**, "a", "rose", and "is"; and **eight word tokens** of those types, "a", "rose", "is", "a", "rose", "is", "a", "rose".

The distinction is important in disciplines such as logic, linguistics, metalogic, typography, and computer programming.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME
AND ATTENTION

Lecture ii REVIEW QUESTIONS

6. What can be viewed as the most important quality characteristic of different levels of language?

Lecture ii REVIEW QUESTIONS

7. Tell the difference between

Synchrony and Diachrony

Lecture ii REVIEW QUESTIONS

8. Explain the difference between utterances, sentences, and propositions

Lecture ii REVIEW QUESTIONS

9. Explain the term

cumulation [ˌkju:mjə'leɪʃ(ə)n]

Lecture ii REVIEW QUESTIONS

10. Explain the expression

“the sound shells of morphemes”

Lecture ii REVIEW QUESTIONS

11. Explain the meaning of the saying “Language does not add up levels during the course of its development, but is divided into them.”.

Lecture ii REVIEW QUESTIONS

12. Try and explain shortly the difference between semantics and pragmatics

Lecture ii REVIEW QUESTIONS

13. What is language level?

Could you provide a definition?

Lecture ii REVIEW QUESTIONS

14. AN EXTRA QUESTION

Where does the concept of word classes / parts of speech belong to?

Morphology?

Syntax?

Lexicology?

Semantics?

Use arguments to substantiate your idea!