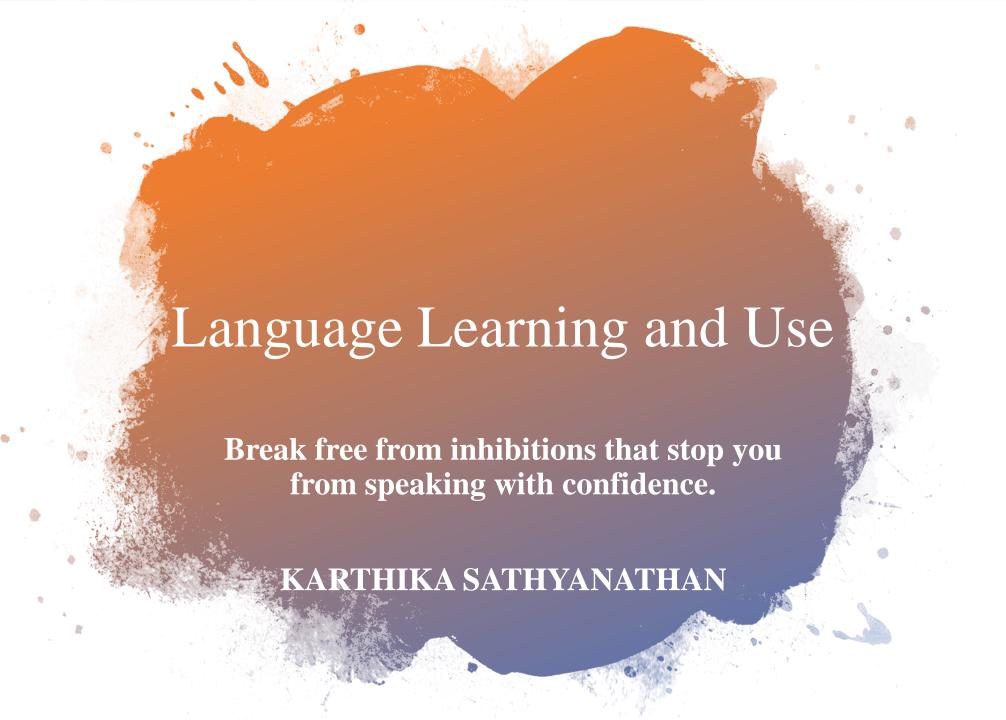


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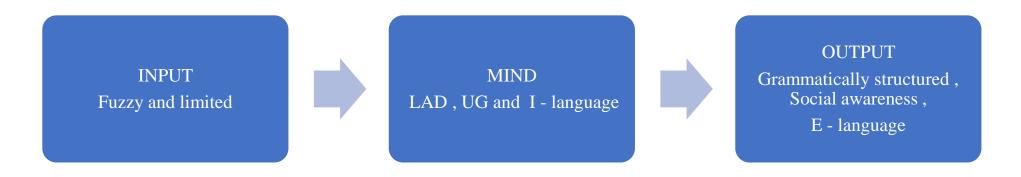
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HOW DO CHILDREN LEARN LANGUAGES?

- Behaviorist model: Children learn languages by merely imitating what they hear.
- Mentalist model: Role of human brain in language acquisition and use.



Universal Grammar: A certain set of structural rules are innate to humans, independent of sensory experience.

LAD: Language Acquisition Device

WHAT DOES CHILDRENS' LANGUAGE TELL YOU?

- Crying stage \longrightarrow Babbling stage \longrightarrow Eight months \longrightarrow Ten months \longrightarrow Sixteen months
- Two and a half years \longrightarrow Three and a half years \longrightarrow Five years
- Stage one: 2½ years: Where my toy? (Simplification of adult English).
- Stage two: 3½ years: What your name is? (Does not know where to put the auxiliary verb)
- Stage three: 5 years: Speaks with good approximation to adult grammar (negative sentence, past tense etc.)
- ❖ Children know much more than they imitate (construct grammatical patterns).
- ❖ They produce novel utterances, a proof for mental grammar.
- ❖ All of this comes from the menu of Universal Grammar

SECOND LANGUAGE LEARNER

- Ma'am your name what ? / Your name is what ? (Ma'am, Unga peru enna?)
- Mother tongue influence
- Principle of Economy
- Inter-language: Form of learner language, used by children, is called 'interlanguage'. It is neither indicative of an impoverished version of language filled with errors, nor is it a language purely based on errors due to the first language interference. It is a language, governed by systematic rules and has a life of its own.

THE ONE AND ONLY MANTRA TO IMPROVE YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS

THE MORE THE INPUT, THE BETTER THE OUTPUT!