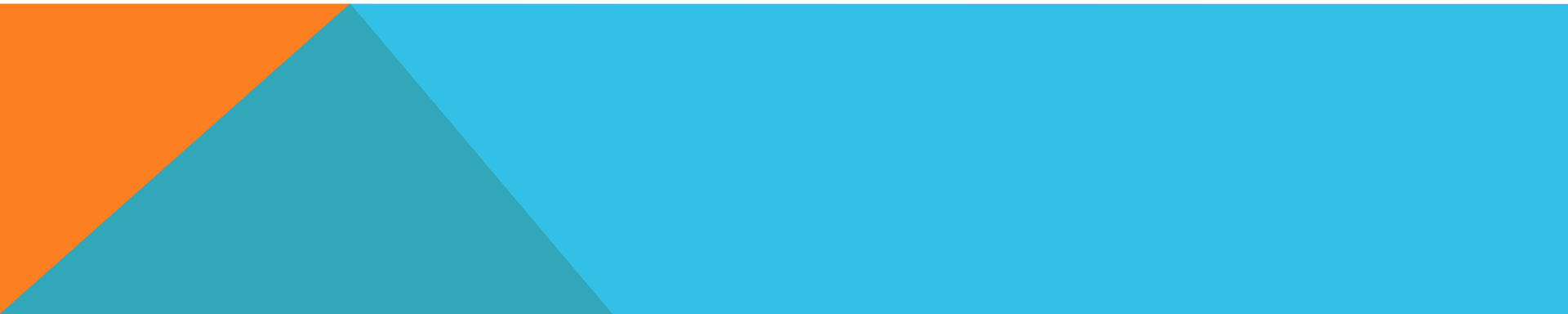


WHAT DO WE KNOW WHEN WE KNOW A LANGUAGE?

ANT 3610; DR. REYES-FOSTER, FALL 2011

WHAT DO WE KNOW WHEN WE *KNOW* A LANGUAGE??

- Phonology
- Morphology
- Syntax
- Semantics



PHONOLOGY

The study of sound
in language.

A PHONEME is the
minimal unit of
sound that
serves to
differentiate the
meanings of
words



Phonemes...

CAT

RAT

CAN

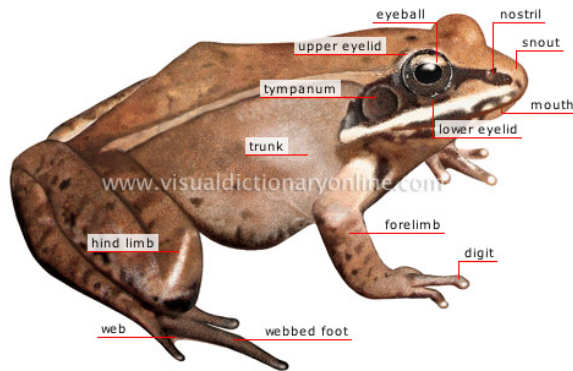
TAN

CAP

RAP



MORPHOLOGY



The study of the
internal structure
of words,
analyzing the
shapes and
meanings of
morphemes

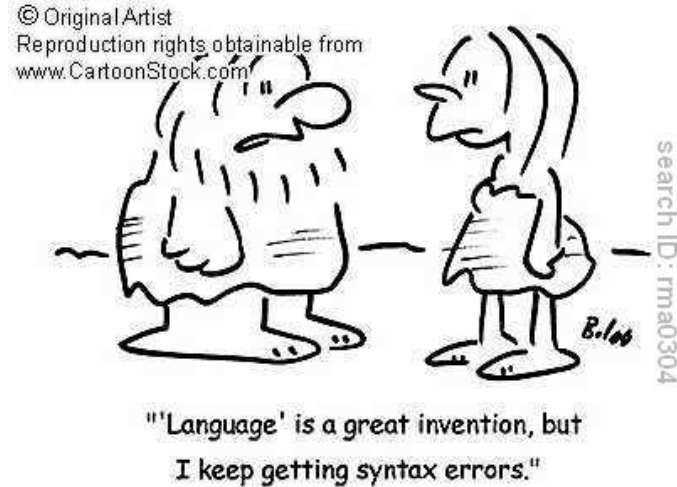
MORPHEME

The smallest
linguistic unit
having both
sound and
meaning.

- Cat s
- Un dress
- Want ed
- In sensitive

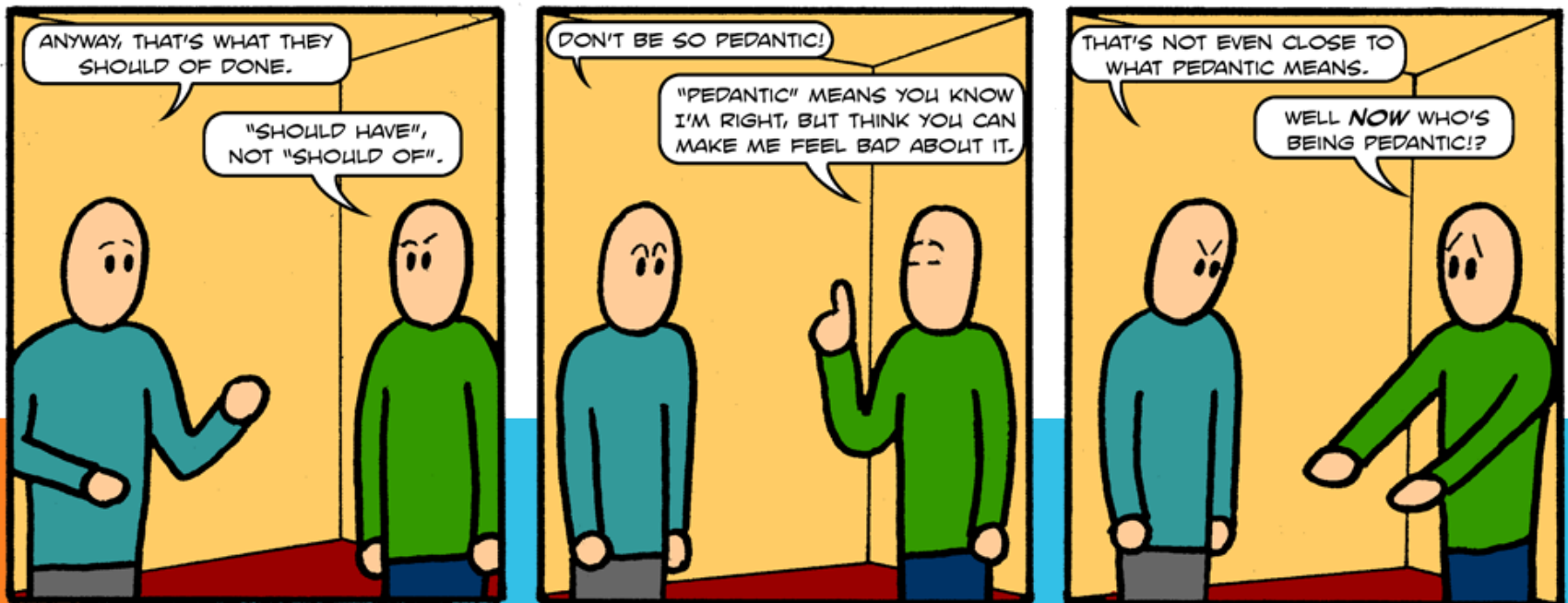
SYNTAX

The study of the structure of sentences, including the construction of phrases, clauses, and the order of words.



SEMANTICS

The study of meaning in language,
including the meanings of words and
sentences.



PRAGMATICS



The study of language use, of actual utterances, and how meanings emerge in social contexts.

IN OTHER WORDS...
PRAGMATICS IS THE SOCIAL DEPLOYMENT
OF A LANGUAGE



FOUR KEY TERMS

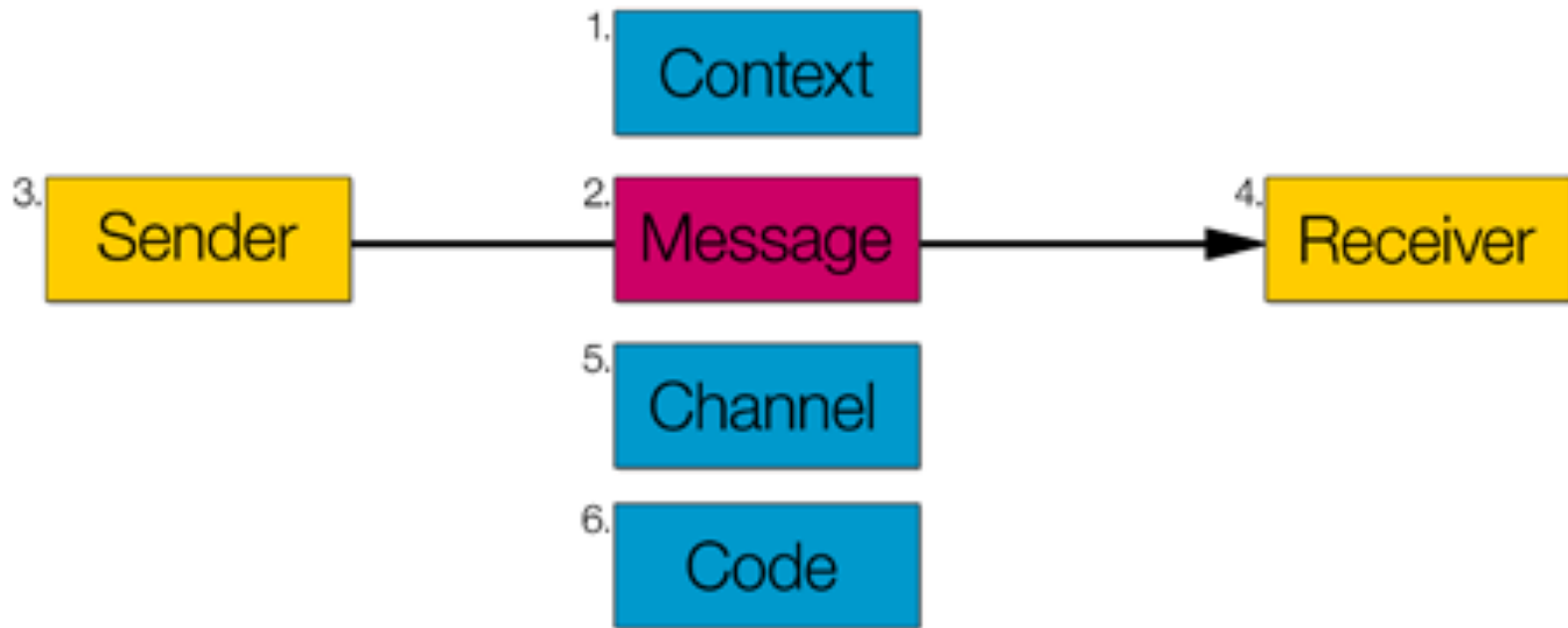
- Multifunctionality
- Language Ideologies
- Practice
- Indexicality





MULTIFUNCTIONALITY

MULTIFUNCTIONALITY: JAKOBSON'S MODEL OF LANGUAGE



EXPRESSIVE FUNCTION

Speaker (SENDER) is expressing a point to him/herself.

– “OUCH!”



CONATIVE FUNCTION

The message is oriented towards the addressee
(RECEIVER).

– “Hey, you!”



REFERENTIAL FUNCTION

Oriented toward a third person or event (CONTEXT).

- “The dropped 300 points today...”



POETIC FUNCTION

The MESSAGE is directed toward itself.

–Rhyme, alliteration, word play, puns, etc.

ex. “See you later, alligator!”



PHATIC FUNCTION

The utterance is oriented toward the CHANNEL or medium that carries it.

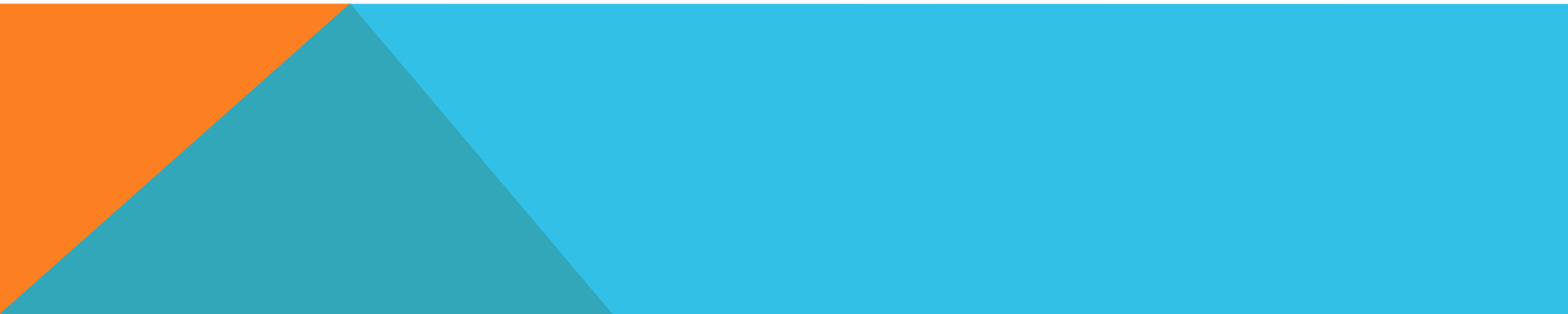
- Speaking into a microphone: “testing 1, 2, 3...”
- Formality greetings that are mainly about the social relationship, not actual inquiries.
ex. “How are you?”



METALINGUISTIC FUNCTION

The utterance is directed toward itself (CODE).

- “How do you spell...”
- “What did you say?”



LET'S TAKE A BREATHER....

Savage Chickens

by Doug Savage



www.savagechickens.com

LANGUAGE IDEOLOGIES

LANGUAGE IDEOLOGIES

The attitudes, opinions, beliefs, or theories that we all have about language – and about people who use language

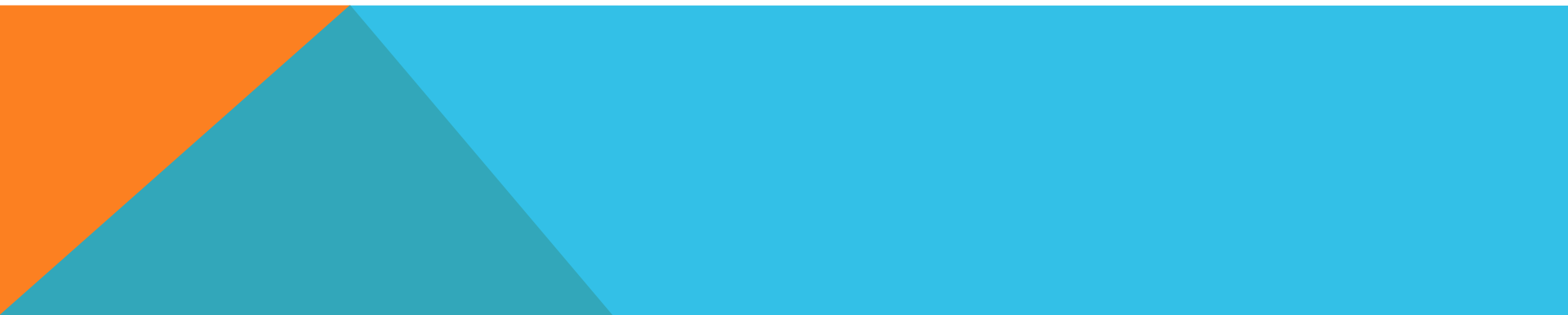




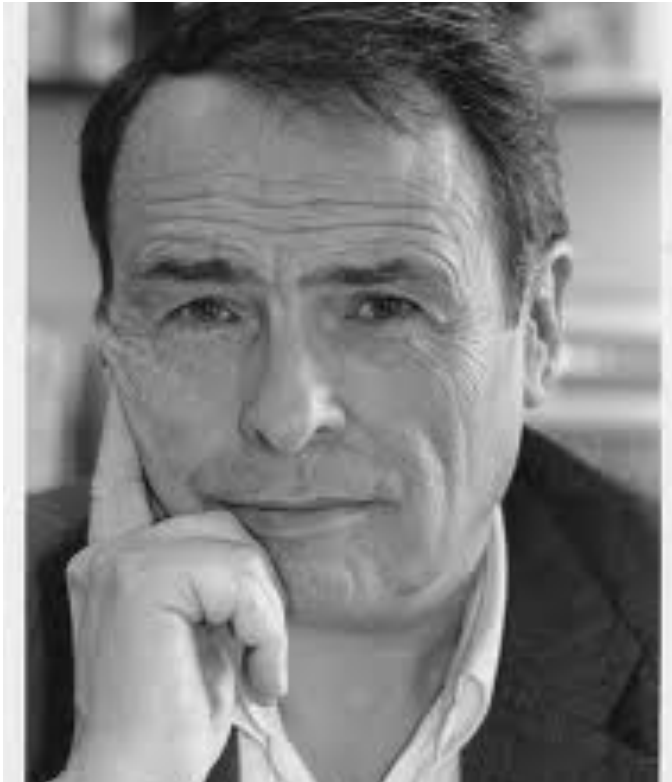
PRACTICE

PRACTICE THEORY

Structures (both linguistic and social) at the same time constrain *and* give rise to human actions, which in turn create, recreate, or reconfigure those same structures – and so on, with structures and actions recursively giving rise to one another.



HABITUS (PIERRE BOURDIEU)



A set of physical and mental predispositions that shape how we think and act.

Habitus is embodied, which means we acquire it through practice.

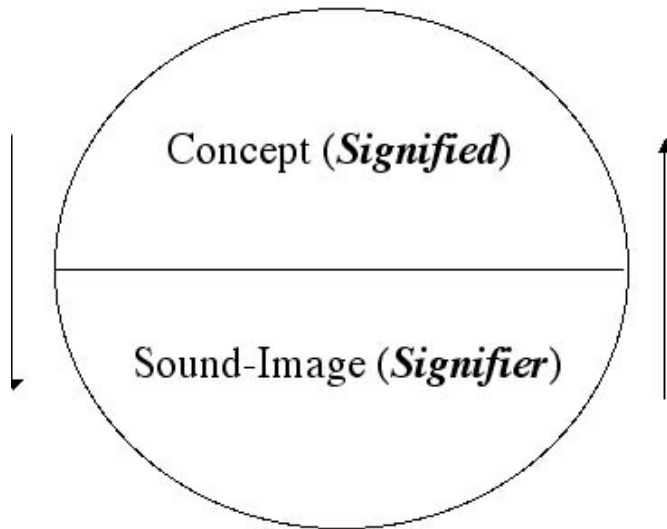


INDEXICALITY

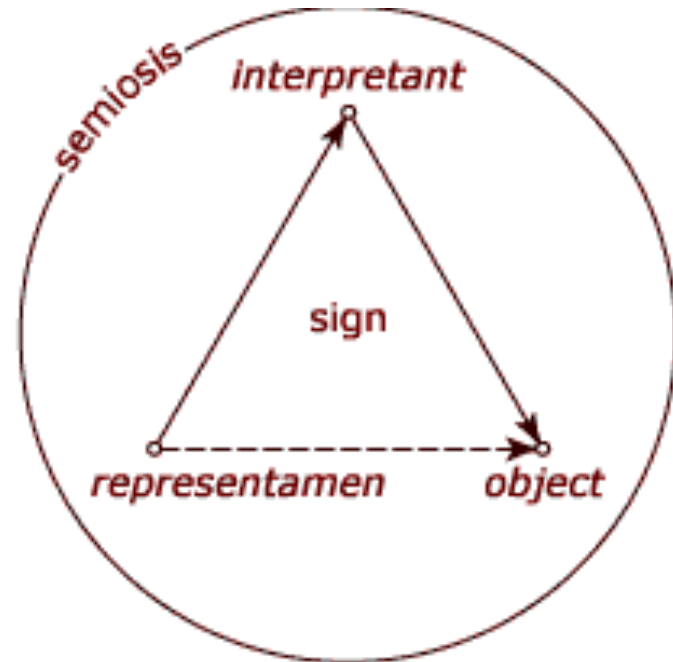
INDEXICALITY

ALLOWS US TO IDENTIFY THE WAYS IN WHICH LANGUAGE AND SOCIAL RELATIONS INTERSECT

SAUSSURE'S CONCEPT OF SIGN



PIERCE'S CONCEPT OF SIGN



THREE WAYS A SIGN CAN RELATE TO ITS OBJECT

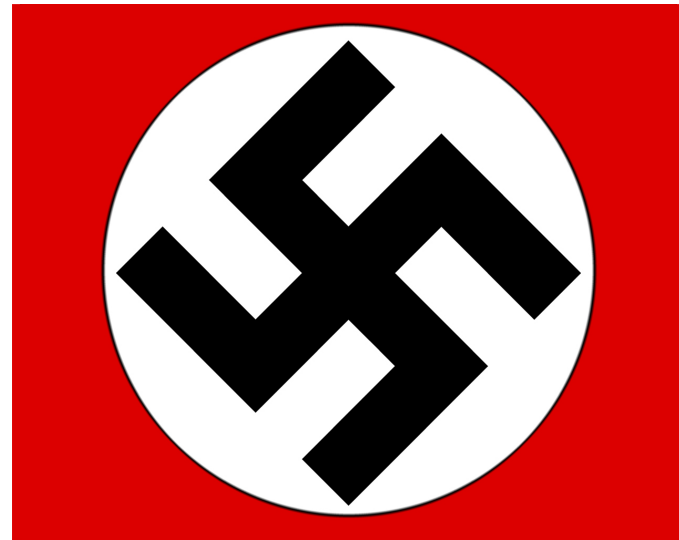


ICON:

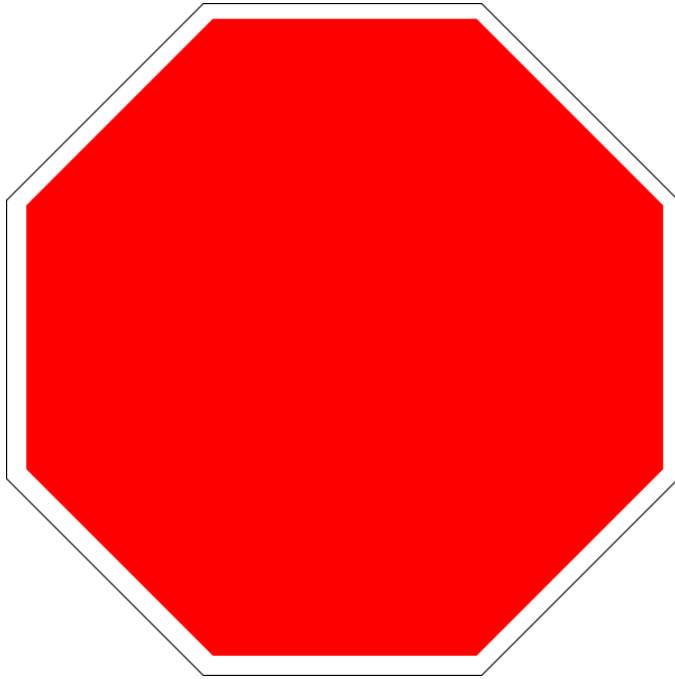
A sign that refers to its object by means of similarity.

INDEX

A sign that refers to its object through some connection both with the individual object and the memory of the person for whom it serves as a sign.



SYMBOL



A sign that refers to its object by virtue of convention or habit.

MAIN POINT

Language, culture, and social relations are inseparable.

