

Reporte Sobre Lectura 1

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Lectura: *N. Chomsky. Three models for the description of languages. IRE Transactions on information theory, vol. 2(3), pp. 113-124 (1956)*

- Text's main idea

Three models for the description of language is an interesting and (in my view) original attempt at formalizing the definition of the word **language**. Formalizing in the sense that the level of abstraction he uses is, by any means, mathematical. He specifically sets the test subject language of his research to be the English Language. As such, he faces the challenge of standardizing and describing an organic system that is fuzzy and rampant in a way that is not easy to describe.

- Main ideas' summary

In the trying to find a theory of the structure of language, three different approaches are presented:

- Finite state Markov processes: A system that produces strings using dependencies as rules.
- Phrase Structure: Tree-like composition of sentences.
- Transformational Grammar: Base language kernel from which all sentences come through transformations.

- Own comment on interesting ideas

The most interesting aspect of this work was, for me, also the most intriguing. That was the way in which these possible theories of language (or the English language) came to be. That is to say: my main question would be how were the basis of these theories constructed in anyone's mind. They are presented in a way that sounds as if they emanated out of language itself, or its usage when in reality they do not in my eyes. I feel like an introduction to and exploration of the *actual* rules and structure of language (even if it is not mathematically solid) would aid the understanding of this work.