**Notes of “The Language Barrier”**

**Type**

Book

**Topic**

Concept

**Notes**

*Mostly Irrelevant Information*

A brief insight of computer systems that incorporate speech synthesis.

Humans often use analogies and metaphors when communicating with one another.

These complex sentence structures are hard to replicate with programming as like the example below, two sentences can have different meanings depending on the context they are used in.

This causes another issue which is the ability to convey emotion correctly. For a system that uses speech synthesis, there are many occurrences where the vocal output is not understandable as it cannot suit the natural flow or emphasis of the input. The feedback is also perceived as robotic due to it being difficult for a system to know where to implement the correct emotion.

This affects the usability of the technology which reduces the likelihood of there being an effective computer solution to the language barrier.

**Usable Quotes or Figures**

**Example**

“That man is a pig” could mean that man is literally a pig or has attributes of a pig.

**Summary**

Mostly irrelevant information however briefly covers issues that technology has with conveying speech effectivity. The complex structures used in speech such as similes and metaphors are easy for humans to use and understand by interpreting the context along with the emotion. For example “Try putting yourself in my shoes” could mean try to physically wear my shoes or the metaphor try understanding it by putting yourself in my position. These different meanings would use a different emotion to convey the message, which highlights the issues speech synthesis services face.