

# Unit 02 L41 Linguistic

2020年2月2日 下午 3:10

- Cognitive Science and Linguistics
  - Only humans are able to compose well-structured phrases and sentences for verbal and written communication.
  - Use of language is a sign of human intelligence.
  - How is language processed in the mind?
  - Animals have their own language.
- Linguistics
  - The study of language
  - A variety of theoretical approaches and methodologies.
  - Topics include grammatical rules, animal language, development, and computer speech recognition.
- Characteristics of Language
  - According to Clark and Clark (1977), language has 5 characteristics:
    - Communicative
    - Arbitrary
    - Structured
    - Generative
    - Dynamic
- Grammatical Rules
  - Language is governed by a number of grammatical rules — a sign of human intelligence
    - **Phonology.** Rules governing sounds.
    - **Morphology.** Rules governing word structure,
    - **Syntax.** Rules for arranging words in sentences.
    - **Semantics.** Rules for understanding meaning.
- Primate Language Use
  - Animals communicate, but do they have language?
    - There have been many experiments on animal cognition about languages specifically with chimps.
- Evaluating Primate Language Use
  - Primates demonstrate some
    - Arbitrariness
    - Displacement
  - They fail to show complex syntactical abilities.
  - They have limited generative capability.
  - They do not teach language to other members of their own species.
- Language Acquisition
  - Humans pass through several stages while learning language:
    - Cooing stage.
    - Babbling stage.
    - One-word stage.
    - Two-word stage.

- Language development
  - Follows a U-shaped pattern of development
- Language Deprivation
  - Humans and other animals have a **critical period**, a time in development during which language or some other cognitive skill is normally acquired.
  - If a child misses the experience of language during critical period, language ability is impaired.
  - Case studies: Victor the wild child
- Conclusion
  - Language is not thought
  - Chomsky states that we are born with a sense of universal grammar and use rules to produce language.