

Pragmatics

Pragmatics & Discourse

Pragmatics:

Concerns how sentences are used in different situations and how it affects the interpretation of the sentence.

Discourse:

Concerns how the immediately preceding sentences affect the interpretation of the next sentence.

Basic difference:

Pragmatics analyses individual utterances (organized set of words) in context. Discourse focusses on an organized set of utterances.

- # Pragmatics:
- Extension of semantics and proposition logic.
 - Studies meaning of utterance and ~~add~~ defines rules to govern their interpretation.
 - Difference between semantics and Pragmatics is semantics: Literal meaning
Pragmatics: Intended meaning
(needs context information)

- Pragmatics uses context of utterance
 - when, why, by who, to whom...
Something is said.

- Also it deals with intensions
 - Criticize, inform, promise, request, warn...

= There are three major applications of pragmatics

1. Question Answer System
2. Summarization
3. Sentiment Analysis.

Discourse

- It is a study of meaning too, but it focusses on large scale units (Articles, conversations) and overall interpretation in a specific context.
- Discourse means the group of related sentences
for example
 - Prime Minister's Speech: Namaste! Mere deshwasigo.
here Semantic Analysis shall be used
 - 'Ladies' word beside the seat in public transport
here Pragmatic analysis shall be used
 - Namaste! Mere deshwasigo. Ghar se bahar matt niklo.
here discourse analysis shall be used
- Discourse analysis involves the study of the relationship between language and contextual background.

Now here Contextual background includes

- Situational context -
Knowledge about physical situations existing in the surroundings at the time of utterance.
- Background knowledge:
includes cultural knowledge and interpersonal knowledge.
- Co-textual context -
Knowledge of what has been said earlier.