Projektbeschrieb

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| **Projektname** | Universal Grammar and Language Acquisition |
| **Das Problem**:  Welches theoretische, praktische, soziale,  juristische/rechtliche Problem ist Ausgangspunkt der Arbeit?  Verschiedene Aspekte einbeziehen und ansprechen. | It is not yet well understood which biological features the human body has been equipped with to help with the acquisition and use of language. |
| **Den** **Forschungsstand**:  Welche Erkenntnisse liegen vor? Was ist  bislang noch nicht behandelt, geklärt oder widersprüchlich? Welchen  Bezug zur vorliegenden Forschung (wissenschaftlicher Ansatz) hat  die eigene Arbeit? | Though it seems likely that some kind of universal structure exists given how easily young children can pick up language from their surroundings, nothing conclusive has yet been found. The best guess at the moment for the most universal grammatical feature would probably be recursion, but there are some languages which are theorised to not have this feature. |
| **Die Fragestellung**:  Auf welche Frage(n)/Thesen soll in der Arbeit  eine Antwort gegeben werden? Fragen, die man bereits beantworten  kann, sind zu oberflächlich und daher ungeeignet. Sie müssen  vertiefter sich damit auseinandersetzen. | The two main questions I would like to answer in this project would be:   1. What, if any, language features are universal and how far has the field come so far? 2. How does language acquisition work in young children and adults? |
| **Die Methode:**  Wie soll das Problem gelöst werden? Wie soll die Frage  beantwortet werden? | To answer the first question, I plan on researching universal grammar and writing a summary of the current state to show my understanding, after which I would like to conduct a small test on language acquisition by teaching/learning a constructed language through immersion alone. |
| **Das Material:**  Welche Quellen (=Daten, Fachtexte, Bücher, Filme etc) liegen vor?  Welche Quellen müssen erst von Ihnen ermittelt werden? Welche  Quellen sollen herangezogen werden?  Bibliotheken, wissenschaftl. Institute, Filme, aktuelle  Zeitungsberichte, Interviews durchführen (Gespräch) und auswerten | * Chomsky's Universal Grammar: An Introduction *(ISBN-13: 978-1-4051-1186-7)* * Universal Grammar in Second-Language Acquisition: A History *(ISBN-13: 978-0-5217-9647-7)* * Toki Pona: The Language of Good *(ISBN-13:* 978-0-9782-9230-0*)*   To be completed |
| **Die vorläufige Gliederung:**  Welche Aspekte sollen in welcher  Reihenfolge behandelt werden? | The two main branches of the project – the summary of UG (universal grammar) and the informal experiment of teaching/learning a language – can, theoretically be run in parallel as they are independent. For the latter, I would obviously need to perform the experiment before I could write a report about it, but that is all. |
| **Den Zeitplan:**  Wie viel Zeit wird für die wichtigsten Arbeitsschritte  benötigt? | Week 1: Reading Source Books and first drafts of UG summary.  Finding willing candidates for the acquisition experiment. Week 2: Reading Source Books and refinement of UG summary.  Implementation of the acquisition experiment.  Week 3: Implementation of the acquisition experiment.  Finalising and checking UG summary. Week 4: Project documentation finalisation. Documentation of   acquisition experiment. |