

Language Areas

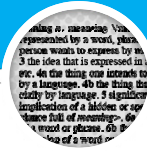
Language Areas

- Language areas control elements and the combination of elements
- It's easiest to see in phrases and sentences
- Some animals have communicative systems, but not combinatorics principles

"The dog bit the postman."

"The postman bit the dog."

Duality of Patterning: Meaning



Elements combined in different ways:

- Sounds combine into syllables and morphemes
- Morphemes combine into words
- Words combine into phrases and sentences
- Sentences combine into turns or paragraphs

Text Linguistics

Semantics and Pragmatics

Syntax

Morphology and Lexis

Phonetics and Phonology

Duality of Patterning: Creativity

**"Nanook ate the yellow snow cone
and tap danced furiously."**

Creating:

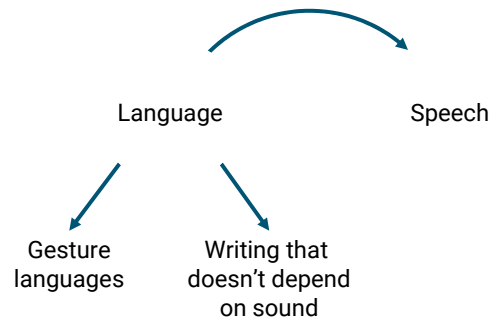
- new sentences
- new words
- new meanings
- new vocables

We have the sound [ŋ]

Speech vs. Language

Lower tongue root + larynx = speech

Elements + combinatorics = language

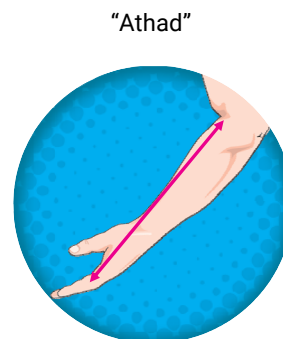


Parity: All Languages are Equal

Anything in one language can be said in another.

What if a language doesn't have a particular word?

- Don't talk about "athads".
- Borrow the word from a different language.
- Flexibility makes parity.



Arm: LifeArt Super Anatomy Collections 1-9. Williams & Wilkins 1998.; Tofu: University of Waterloo

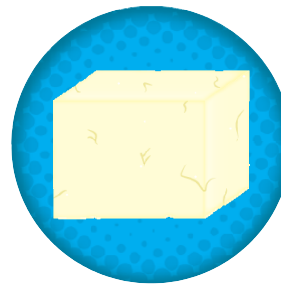
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"Tofu"



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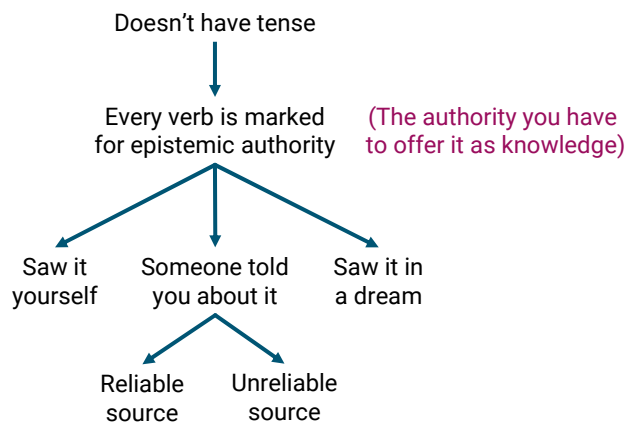
"Zeitgeist"



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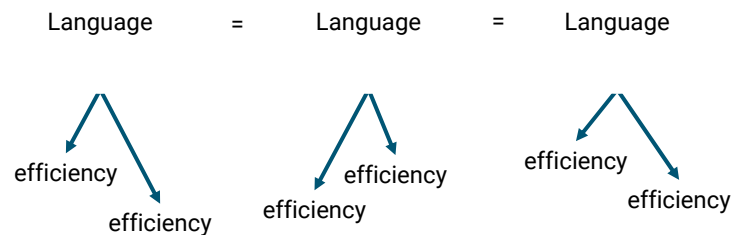
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Kwakiutl (or Kwak'wala) - A language of Canada



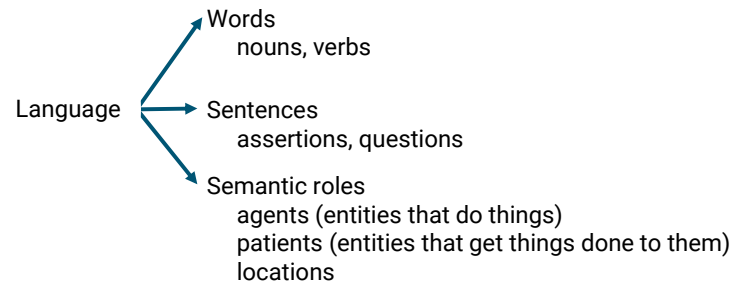
Parity: All Languages are Equal

All languages are on par with one another in communicative abilities, but with different efficiencies



Universality

All languages share some basic properties



"I threw the dog a bone in my yard."

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑
Agent Recipient Patient Location

Mutability

Languages change

Why would we want to change our language?

Fads

Neat → Groovy → Far-out → Radical → Cool



Political Scientist



Computer Scientist



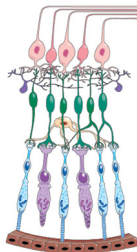
Lawyer

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Tacitness

A great deal of grammatical knowledge is tacit knowledge

/p/:
[p] vs [p^h] vs [p^ˀ]



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