

7.4 Conclusion

Since musical behaviour is so widespread, so dear to human hearts, and so closely allied to language and other communicative codes, linguistic fieldworkers are urged to take advantage of opportunities to work with their community collaborators to record and document music and dance when feasible. The results will be of potential interest not only to musicologists, but also to researchers in allied disciplines such as cognitive psychology and neuroscience interested in understanding human diversity in this important expressive dimension.

Notes

- 1 Language code ISO 639-3 pjt
- 2 Enfield has argued that the role of inference in semantics means that differing interpretations are perhaps more frequent than commonly supposed even in language. He hypothesizes that 'lower frequency words will show greater variation in meaning across speakers', and that 'because the usage contexts of these words are less varied, speakers will have been deprived of the chance to rigorously test ongoing hypotheses' (Enfield 2007: 7).