Introduction to the Study of Language (Ling 1), Fall 2020
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ANALYSIS PAPER 1

INFORMATION

Theme:
In writing this paper, you will get a taste of the kind of systematic data collection that is the input for linguistic analysis. You will also use the tools and the knowledge from the classes and apply what you have learned to novel data. The novel data are represented by your own language(s). The purpose of the paper is to get you to reflect on your native language(s) by taking a closer look at how you speak and comparing it with another language that you have some familiarity with.

One of the languages will be one of your native language(s).
The other language will be a language with which you have some personal experience and familiarity.
Do not worry if you think that your knowledge of this second language is weak. Any level of knowledge of the second language will help you make a good comparison!
The second language could be any of the following:
- English, if you speak a language other than English as your first language.
- A language you speak alongside your native language, as it might be the case that you are bilingual (or trilingual or multilingual).
- A language that you have studied in school, even only for a short period of time.
- A language in which you have some ability due to exposure to it through people around you who speak it, for example if you have lived where it was spoken or in any other circumstance.
- If (and only if) none of these options apply to you, your second language may be one that a friend (outside of this class) speaks.

Research:
Your only sources of information should be your knowledge of the two languages you choose and the information you get in Ling 1 from lectures, sections, the course textbook, and course readings. If you choose a language that you studied in school, you may want to consult your textbooks, but you do not need to do any further library research.
(Only in the case you will consult a friend, you need to get information from them.)

Length and form:
The paper should be 1000-1200 words (no less than 1000 words and no more than 1200) double-spaced, and in 12-point type with 1 inch margins. You will not need a bibliography other than listing a language text(book) you may have consulted, as mentioned just above. Your paper is to be submitted through *Turnitin* on the CCLE course website. The course website will explain how to do this.

OUTLINE OF THE PAPER

Your paper must include all **four** of the following sections (in bold below). A concluding paragraph is optional. The title and orders of the sections in your paper should be exactly as they are below. The content of each section should be as described below:

1. Introduction:

Describe your linguistic background as it relates to the paper. This should include information on the context of where you learned each language - at home, in school (including where you studied and the amount of time), living where the language is spoken, etc. If you learned one of the languages in school, say a little about how it was taught - little or much speaking of the language in class, little or much English used during class, little or much emphasis on good pronunciation, little or much emphasis on memorizing grammar rules, etc.

2. Slang:

Most people use both formal and informal language, depending on the (social) situation. In this section, there are two tasks.

First, identify 3 slang or informal words/phrases in your native language that you use and are currently in vogue at your university, in your nightclubs (Yes, these are currently shut down.), among your friends and social circle, etc. For each word/phrase, (1) explain what it means, (2) when you would use it.

The second task is to identify 3 slang or informal words/phrases in your native language that are not in fashion or sound outdated (like "give someone a knuckle sandwich.", "Far out!", "a smokey", etc.) For each word/phrase, explain (1) what it means, (2) who uses/used it.

Optional: repeat the same tasks for the other language.

3. Dialect:

Think about dialects and speakers of your native language. In this section, you should do the following. Say whether or not your own native language variety is the standard or prestige dialect or a non-standard variety.

If your native variety IS the standard or prestige variety, what prototypical characteristics of a standard language does it have? Provide an example of each. (You must make explicit reference to the characteristics mentioned in Lecture 1 of 'Language and Dialect'.)

If your native variety IS NOT the standard or prestige variety, identify a couple of ways in which it is different from the standard/prestige variety. For example, does your dialect have sounds that are absent in the standard/prestige variety or vice versa? Provide a couple of examples that show this using IPA. Does your dialect have words that are different or absent in the standard/prestige variety? Provide a few examples that show this.

Optional: ask and answer the same questions for the other language.

4. Comparison of sounds:

Select one point of comparison between sounds found in the two languages. Examples of such comparison might be:

- the pronunciation of Spanish vowels, which are "pure" vowels, and English vowels, which tend to be "diphthongized" (compare the pronunciation of of the vowel in Spanish de 'from' with the pronunciation of the vowel in English day);

- the presence of front rounded vowels in French, German, or Chinese and their absence in English;
- the presence of palatal fricatives in English (the sounds symbolized by the underlined letters in ash and azure) and their absence in Spanish;
- the presence of velar fricatives ("guttural sounds") in German or Hebrew and their absence in English.

The sound description need not be technical, but try to use terminology and concepts introduced during the lectures on Phonetics. You should (1) write the sounds using the INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET symbols as we did in class during the Phonetics module of the course, (2) provide an articulatory description of the sounds, and (3) give sample words.

Include some comments comparing the languages, for example, noting what sounds you tend to substitute for the "difficult" sounds of your non-native language.

DO NOT CONFUSE THE *ORTHOGRAPHY* OF THE LANGUAGE WITH THE *SOUNDS* OF THE LANGUAGE.

5. Conclusion (optional**):** Briefly mention how looking at the topics discussed in the paper have gotten you to thinking about your own language.

If you have questions about the assignment, please ask your TA or Professor.

ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA *TURNITIN* AT THE UPLOAD LINK IN THE CCLE CLASS WEBSITE. THEY *CANNOT* BE EMAILED DIRECTLY TO YOUR TEACHING ASSISTANT.

Please make sure you receive a submission receipt when you upload your assignment to *Turnitin*. If you do not receive a confirmation, your submission was not successful. It is your responsibility to make sure your assignments are uploaded successfully. Assignments that are not uploaded successfully will be treated as late and will not be accepted. Please contact your Teaching Assistant if you have any questions.