Introduction to the Study of Language (Ling 1), Fall 2020
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ANALYSIS PAPER 2

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 <u>your native language(s)</u>.
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 <u>very briefly</u> 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.

This section should be no longer than 100 words.

2. Morphology:

In order to describe the morphology of your native language, select <u>two</u> aspects among the following:

- inflection of verbs
- inflection of nouns
- marking words for gender and number agreement
- formation of compound words

The morphological description need not be technical, but you should use terminology and concepts introduced during the lectures on Morphology.

<u>Optional</u>: describe the way the two languages mark a comparable structure, e.g. how each language marks past tense or future tense, if there is agreement between the adjectives and the referring noun, etc. Be sure to include examples from both languages to support all claims that you make about similarities and differences.

3. Syntax:

In order to describe the syntax of your native language, select two aspects among the following:

- order of elements in the NP
- use of endings that mark words for whether they are subject or object
- order of words in sentences

Again, the syntactic description need not be technical, but you should use terminology and concepts introduced during the lectures on Syntax.

<u>Optional</u>: describe the way the two languages mark a comparable structure, e.g., what the order of a noun and its modifiers are in each of the languages, what is the order between the verb, the subject and the object. etc. Be sure to include examples from both languages to support all claims that you make about similarities and differences.

4. Comparison about the grammar of possessives:

This section in about comparing the two languages according to the behavior of possessives.

Select <u>one</u> point of comparison between how the possessives behave in the two languages among the following:

- the organization of possessives with respect to the grammatical persons: do the two languages have a possessive that corresponds to 'I', a different possessive that corresponds to 'you' etc.?
- position of possessive with respect to nouns: do possessive precede or follow the nouns? If you put an adjective in the middle, where does the possessive go?
- grammatical agreement of the possessive: can possessives show gender and/or number agreement? If they do, do they agree with the referring noun or with the possessor?
- the form of possessives in the two languages: do possessives correspond to grammatical words in the two languages? Or do they correspond to a phrase?

Explain clearly and provide examples in both languages.

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.