

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is
linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to
language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative
view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Newcastle University

October 2, 2019

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Introduction

What is linguistics?

Approaches to language structure

A communicative view of language

5-minute exercise

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

Him go there

01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex



FS 16

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

1. **Diagnose** language impairments
2. Identify **targets** for therapy
3. Devise **new** therapies

01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

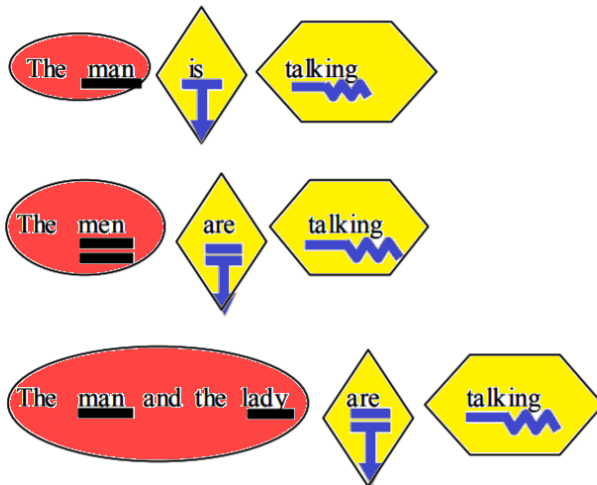
Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

Susan Ebbel's shape coding



Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Introduction

What is linguistics?

Approaches to language structure

A communicative view of language

5-minute exercise

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

The study of language, consisting of 4 subdomains

1. syntax: language structure
2. semantics: linguistic meaning
3. phonology: the sound system of language
4. pragmatics: language in context

What is syntax?

Syntax covers the structural properties of language, e.g. word order

English (SVO)

(1) Tom watches TV

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

What is syntax?

Syntax covers the structural properties of language, e.g. word order

English (SVO)

(1) Tom watches TV

Japanese (SOV)

(2) Tom-san-wa Terebi-o mimashita

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

What is syntax?

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

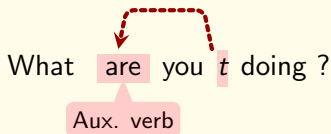
A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

(3)



What is semantics?

How are word meanings represented / expressed? How are word meanings combined to form sentence meanings?

Compositionality = the meaning of the whole is composed of the meaning of the parts

1. The Queen of England likes Corgis
2. The Queen of England likes **Dachsunds**

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

What is pragmatics

The study of language in context

A: Do you want to see Mission Impossible V?

B: I don't like action movies.

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

What is phonology?

Ask Ghada and Jalal!!

01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we **SHOULD** speak

Descriptive grammars - how we **ACTUALLY** speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

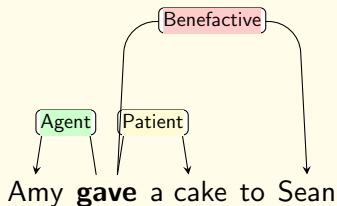
Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Crossing over

(4)



Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?
What is semantics?
What is pragmatics
What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak
Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak
Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view
Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Subfields of linguistics

Theoretical linguistics

Psycholinguistics

Sociolinguistics

Discourse studies

01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Introduction

What is linguistics?

Approaches to language structure

A communicative view of language

5-minute exercise

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

(5) I have n't got no money

(6) I ca n't get no satisfaction

01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

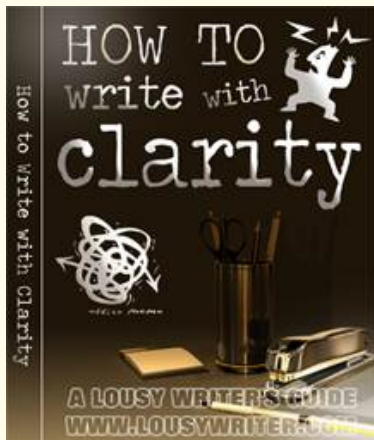
A communicative view

Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak



It must be remembered that two negatives in the English language destroy each other and are equivalent to an affirmative. Often we hear such expressions as "He was not asked to give no opinion," expressing the very opposite of what is intended. The double negative, therefore, should be carefully avoided, for it is insidious. (*from "How to write with clarity"*)

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

I don't regret anything

I don't regret nothing



Je ne regrette rien

No me arrepiento de nada



Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

The use of "hopefully"

- (7) The dog looked **hopefully** at the food on the kitchen worksurface (NORMAL ADVERB)

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

The use of "hopefully"

- (7) The dog looked **hopefully** at the food on the kitchen worksurface (NORMAL ADVERB)
- (8) **Hopefully**, it won't rain this morning (SENTENTIAL ADVERB)

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

The use of "hopefully"

- (7) The dog looked **hopefully** at the food on the kitchen worksurface (NORMAL ADVERB)
- (8) **Hopefully**, it won't rain this morning (SENTENTIAL ADVERB)



Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

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Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

01 - Introduction
to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

THE RULES ACCORDING TO JACOB

CORRECT STYLE

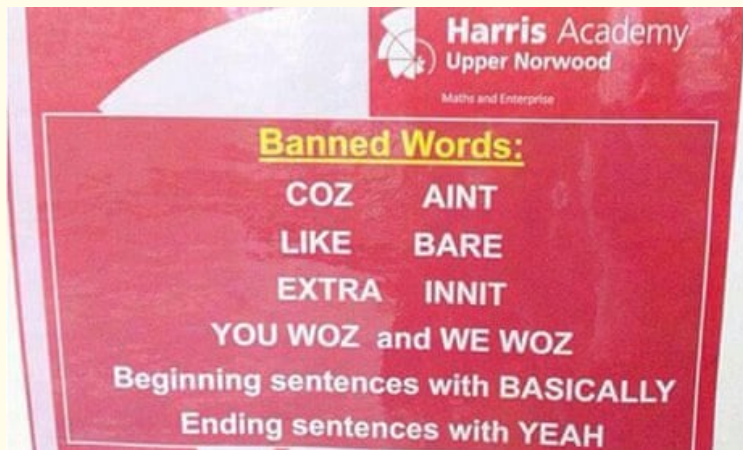
- Organisations are **SINGULAR**
- All non-titled males – Esq.
- There is **no .** after Miss or Ms
- M.P.s – no need to write M.P. after their name in body of text
- Male M.P.s (non-privy councillors) – in the address they should have **Esq.**, before M.P. (e.g. Tobias Ellwood, Esq., M.P.)
- Double space after fullstops
- No comma after ‘and’
- CHECK your work
- Use imperial measurements

BANNED WORDS/PHRASES

- Very
- Due to
- Ongoing
- Hopefully
- Unacceptable
- Equal
- ‘invest’
(in schools etc)
- No longer fit for purpose
- I am pleased to learn
- I note/understand your concerns
- Too many ‘I’s
- Yourself
- Lot
- Got
- Speculate
- Meet with
- Ascertain
- Disappointment



Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak



Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

**Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak**

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

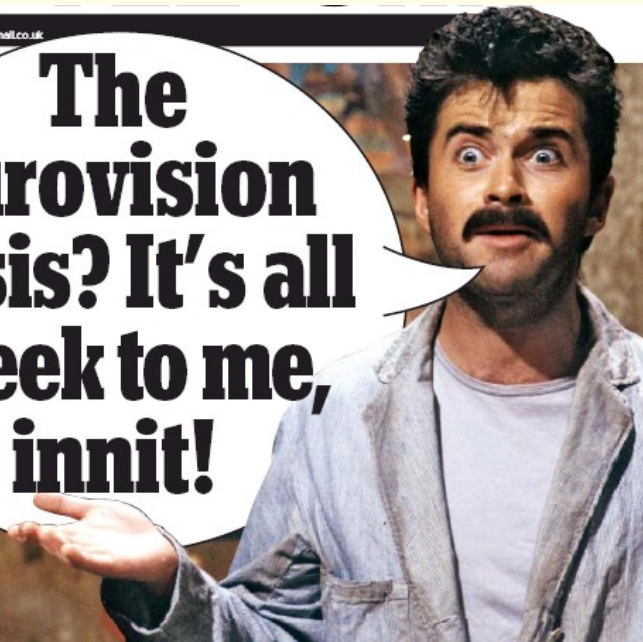
5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

rd.littlejohn@dailymail.co.uk

**The
Eurovision
crisis? It's all
Greek to me,
innit!**



01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak



KEEP
CALM
INNIIT

01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

1. It was a great meal, wasn't it / innit?
2. You're Jack's nephew, aren't you / innit?
3. They've been to Greece, haven't they / innit?

01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

(9) He be working Tuesdays

(10) He been got a job

01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak



01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak



01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

'A language is a dialect with an army and a navy'
(Weinreich)

01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

**Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak**

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Examples?

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

**Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak**

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Mental grammars - the underlying system

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

**Mental grammars - the
underlying system**

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Which of these sentences is correct?

1. Me and Jack went to the shops
2. I and Jack went to the shops
3. Jack and me went to the shops
4. Jack and I went to the shops

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

HYPERCORRECTION...

ME AND THE
MISSUS ARE
DRIVIN' TO
BROOME...

I AND ME
MISSUS AM
DRIVIN' TO
BROOME...

THE MISSUS
AND MESELF'LL
SEE YEZ
THERE...

Aston.

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know
about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars -
how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how
we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the
underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT
practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Introduction

What is linguistics?

Approaches to language structure

A communicative view of language

5-minute exercise

A communicative view



01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Relationship with SLT practice

It is important to be aware of prescriptive assumptions when testing children



01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTs need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

A communicative view of language

A communicative view

Relationship with SLT practice

5-minute exercise

5-minute ex

Relationship with SLT practice

"The cat that the dog chased was brown"

01 - Introduction to Linguistics

Nick Riches

Introduction

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

What is linguistics?

What is syntax?

What is semantics?

What is pragmatics?

What is phonology?

Crossing over

Subfields of linguistics

Approaches to language structure

Prescriptive grammars - how we SHOULD speak

Descriptive grammars - how we ACTUALLY speak

Mental grammars - the underlying system

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"The cat **what** the dog chased was brown"

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What is the grammatical word class (e.g. noun, verb, adjective etc.) of the italicised words in the following sentences:

1. The raging river tore through the valley
2. That film really sucks