## 01 - Introduction to Linguisics

## Nick Riches

Newcastle University

September 27, 2019

## 01 - Introduction to Linguisics

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#### Introdu

Why SLTS need to know about linguistics

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Descriptive grammars - how

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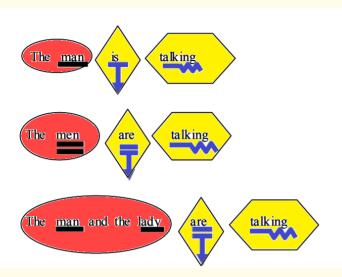
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**Diagnose** language impairments

- 2. Identify **targets** for therapy
- 3. Devise **new** therapies

## Susan Ebbel's shape coding



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## 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?

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

English (SVO)

Tom watches TV (1)

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What is syntax?

What is syntax?

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

English (SVO)

Tom watches TV (1)

Japanese (SOV)

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

## What is syntax?

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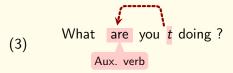
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## What is semantics?

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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**

## What is pragmatics

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The study of language in context

A: Do you want to see Mission Impossible V?

B: I don't like action movies.

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Ask Ghada and Jalal!!

## Crossing over



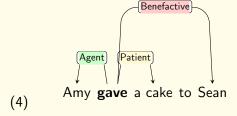
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## Theoretical linguistics

**Psycholinguistics** 

**Sociolinguistics** 

Discourse studies

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I have n't got no money (5)

(6)I ca n't get no satisfaction



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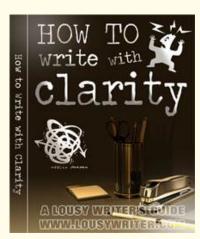
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It must be remembered that two negatives in the English language destroy each other and are equivalent to an affirmative. Often we hear such expressions as "He was not asked to give no opinion," expressing the very opposite of what is intended. The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



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worksurface (NORMAL ADVERB)

The dog looked **hopefully** at the food on the kitchen

The use of "hopefully"

(7)

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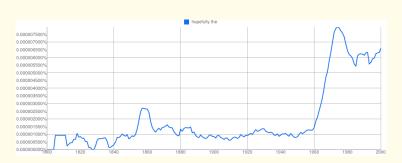
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The use of "hopefully"

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

The use of "hopefully"

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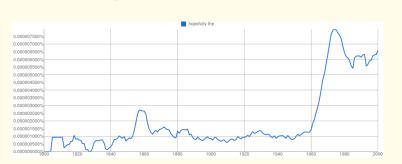
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The use of "hopefully"

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- Itwas a great meal, wasn'tit / innit?
- 2. You're Jack's nephew, aren't you / innit?
- 3. They've been to Greece, haven't they / innit?

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He be working Tuesdays

(10) He been got a job

(9)

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

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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

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



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"The cat that the dog chased was brown"

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"The cat that the dog chased was brown"

"The cat  $\boldsymbol{what}$  the dog chased was brown"

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## 5-minute ex

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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