

Intro To Linguistics - 2

Three parts :- Semantics [Meaning within]
Pragmatics [Meaning without]
Discourse [Meaning in a large context]

Grammaticality judgment :- Chomsky believes that this is tacit. [It exists within us without our knowledge]

Ideal speaker-hearer :- Person who has perfect tacit knowledge.

Paraphrasing :- Same meaning, but different word ordering

Contradiction:- The sentence and its negation

Ambiguity :- Sentences which have multiple meanings
[Or, words too]

Entailment :- When a sentence has more information than another, then the second sentence entails the first.

All the semantic knowledge is tacit in home corpus

Semantics is studied because it is central to communication and to the study of the human mind.

Thought processes & conceptualization → categorization of the world.

Central to our study of humans

↳ Psychology :- Study the working of the mind.

↳ Linguistics :- Language for communication.

↳ Philosophy :- How do we know what we know?

Plato's problem :- Poverty of data, less data → More knowledge.

Chomsky says that we are born with an innate blue print. [Poverty of stimulus]

Autonomy of syntax :- Syntax is independent of other parts of language, hence it is enough to study this for linguistics - view of Chomsky.

Tesniere [1954] :- The structural & semantic plane are independent of each other.

How? Phonology & syntax talk about ~~meaning~~ expression possibilities.
What? Semantics deals with meaning that can be expressed.

Meaning :-

It means a lot to me

I am fed up with the meaningless talk

They exchanged meaningful glances

I didn't mean to hurt your sentiments

What does dystopia mean?

I mean ...

Does it mean that WW3 is in the offing?

Ogdon & Richards gave 22 meanings of the word 'mean'

One of the definitions is "the intrinsic property of a word"

The other words connected to it is - dictionary.

Connotation of a word.

Some words / combinations have multiple meanings.

Linguistic signs have 2 parts → Signifiers
→ Signified.

word → constituent phones

→ Meaning

Tessniere [1954] - The structural & semantic planes are independent of each other.

How → Phonology is system talk about ~~how~~ expression possibilities.
What → Semantics deals with meaning that can be expressed.

Meaning :-

it means a lot to me

I am fed up with the meaningless talk

They exchanged meaningful glances

I didn't mean to hurt your sentiments

What does dystopia mean

I mean ...

Does it mean that WW3 is in the offing?

Ogdon & Richards gave 2 meanings of the word 'mean'

One of the definitions is "the intrinsic property of a word".
The other words connected to it in a dictionary.
(Semantification of a word).

Some words / combinations have multiple meanings

Linguistic signs have 2 parts → Signifiers
→ Signified.

word → constituent phonemes
→ Meaning

All words contains
+ w & words. Ex words where w contains v

Since few meanings form closed cycles, we look
in relation with ~~to~~ languages

objection

Easier to study words because they are subjective.
Unlike meanings which are subjective.

Types of Meaning :-

i) Cognitive / Logical / Definition Meaning :- Essential L.
Integral part of language ^{comes}: This because they have complex
organization.

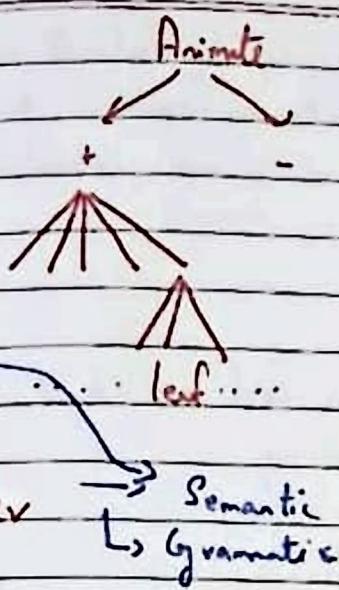
[k] → plosive → + plosive - voiced
→ velar → + velar - aspirated
↳ voiceless
↳ unvoiced

[g] → + plosive + voiced
→ + velar - aspirated

② Contrastiveness :- Ex: contrast b/w planes using ten
features.

	Woman	Man	Girl	Boy	Cow	Calf
+ Human	+	+	+	-	-	-
+ Female	-	+	-	+	+/-	-
+ Adult	+	-	-	+	-	-

③ Structure / Hierarchy :- [like Syntex]



Telugu is sp. - Only human males have masculine tag,
everything else is feminine

There is a shared knowledge amongst people about the meaning
of words, like connotation, etc.

i) **Connotative Meaning** :- Connected to the real world experiences.
Variable in nature. Usually open ended. And hence unstable.
Has denotative meaning, plus some more. This is peripheral
(not central)

Old Owl - Same denotative meaning → Connotative → Wise
Smart - ... → .. → Dumb.

ii) **Social Meaning** :- We attach values to people based on speech
These could be regional or social.
Think of regional dialects & social dialects.

Swami [s̪m̪aɪ]

s̪ām̪i [s̪am̪ɪ] → Cluster simplification

cām̪i [t̪̪am̪ɪ] → Nativized

Any more dialect:- Any more is by default negated, and hence usually occurs with a negation. But this dialect in Pennsylvania has a non connotation.

Mother Theresa

- ↳ Denotative:- +F, +has child, +adult
- ↳ Connotative:- +Kind, +caring

But motherboard? Mother tongue?

BEV:- AAVE, Negro English, Black English etc.

Different from American Standard

Double negation != positive.

Caste Dialects:-

i) Tamil:-

Mudaliyar [Non Brahmins]

Iyer / Iyengars [Brahmins]

	M	I
Water	Tanni	Jal
Worship	"	Tirtham
on-Palate	"	Tanni
Worship	Punje	Puji, Puze [ejonction]
Food	Soor / Sooram	Soodam / Sooram [ejonction]
Eat	Tizan / Saapda	Sapda / Tizan

ii) Marathi :-

Brahmin

tilli

shahane

pati

firne

rājīvane

cetve

mārane

Ner-Brahmin

ēavi

zavane

chagati

bhurkone

kēvane

thobād

banana

Time dialect :-

Old English :- You :- Pl. resp. honorific
Thou :- Sing.

But yet now 'thou' is lost & its meaning is transferred to 'You'

Singularity :- Uniqueness in speech.

Status :- Degrees of politeness • The highest degree is usually the plural. Exception :- Bengali = tui, tuni, apni ; but apni is not plural.

Style :- Formal vs Colloquial

মোঃ আব্দুল আজিজ কর্মসূচি

মোঃ আব্দুল আজিজ উদ্যোগী পণ্ডিত

Formality ↑

মোঃ আব্দুল আজিজ উদ্যোগী পণ্ডিত

i.) **Referential meaning :-** Reflect the feelings & intentions & attitude of the speaker. It is "Personal" in nature.
Intonation - Sarcasm
 Example: You tell your friend you say "Get lost"

v) **Allocution meaning :-**

Water :- pani, jal

Lemon water :- nimbu pani ✓ Ganga pani ✗
 nimbu jal ✗ Ganga jal ✓

पानी जल निम्बू जल

गंगा जल निम्बू पानी

पानी - निम्बू पानी ✓

पानी - जल ✗

गंगा - जल ✗

गंगा - निम्बू ✗

vi) **Idiosyncratic properties :-**

pretty + x { girl, woman, thing } not boy/male.

↑
elder

Language as a conceptual system

Cognition & tokenization. Mainly reading and speaking.

Thoughts vs action.

Through the language glass

Guy Deutscher

classmate

Date _____

Name _____

We impose a structure when we cognize & perceive reality.

Do all civilizations impose the same structures on reality?

Language & Thought :-

Cognizing & Recognizing give rise to ideas of being & existence in the mind.

Language is more than just a communication tool. Language is on the other hand a conceptual system as it helps us conceptualise and categorize stuff. We use it to impose a structure on reality.

These basic features are unique to human language.

Do all languages impose the same structures on reality?

Study of Berlin & Kay :- Basic Colour Terms.

11:- Black, white, red, green, yellow, blue, purple, pink, orange & brown.

These 11 colours are the most basic colours.

Hannanoo

/Biru/- black & dark tints

/Lagti?/- white & light tints

/Java?/- maroon, red, orange

/Latırj?/- green, yellow, brown.

Languages which might have fewer words still have speakers who can identify them.

viver / οντα

But in French:

Fleuve = Flows into the sea

Rivière = ☐ Tributary

Foot, leg

पैर फ़ुट



जप्ती

Different languages cognize the world differently.

Sapir-Whorf hypothesis & Linguistic determinism:-

Whorf says that language more imposes a grid on our reality. This is used to pigeonhole our experiences in the reality.

Since different languages have different grids, our thoughts are also different because the way we interpret the world is different.

Is Jallikattu good or bad? Is it part of our tradition, or is it a barbaric action.

Whorf believed that we are in mesh "straitjacket" because the way we observe our world has been determined by our language. This is known as linguistic Relativity.

Hopis might not have words dealing with the concept of time, but they still can perceive time.

paasa (for that long); paasaat (at that time) etc.

Melothi, upon studying the Hopis thoroughly, found that they had an abstract relation b/w time & space. That is, they have spatial metaphors for time.

Telugu has only 2 tenses :- past & non-past.

vaccenu	vastānu	vastānu
had come	come	will come

Indian languages usually have the same word for indefinite present & past.

English :- He says
He said that.

There is also a time-space overlap.

3|1|J → spatial
↓
time

The strong hypothesis does not hold because of translation creativity

↳ Language is forever changing

↳ We borrow from other languages

↳ Then follows nativization

↳ There is also lexical innovation :- neologisms E.g. Smog, emoticons

↳ Semantic shifts / Expansion

3 (Ind) - 2017 → To think [Tamil & Malayalam]
 ↳ To criticize [Hindi]
 ↳ To discuss [Bengali]

silly :- happy [old english] → pious → stupid.
 [happ]
 Pejoration ↑ [+ve → -ve]

Amelioration [-ve → +ve]

Pretty :- cunning [old english] → clever
 ↓
 good looking ← smart

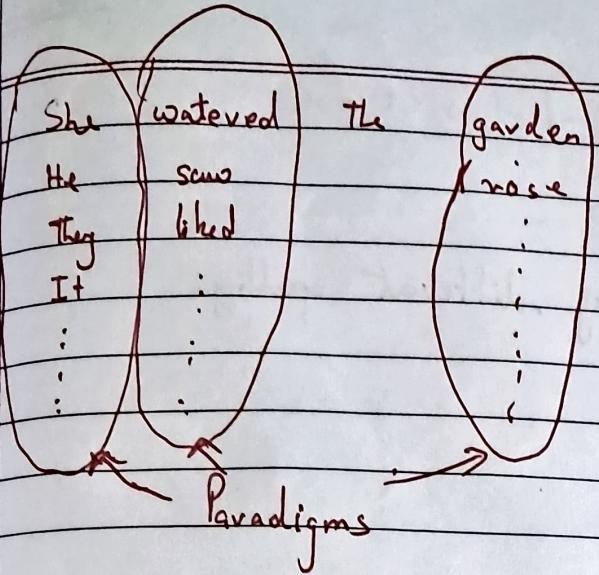
sad :- full [$\ominus \in \Rightarrow$ sated] → resolute → graveness / seriousness,
 sorrowful ↴ ↵

⇒ The weak Whorfian hypothesis is accepted

Innateness :- Chomsky's ideas. Disregards the Whorfian claims. Believes that we already have semantic categories in our minds. "Humans are born to speak" language system.

Language as a tool for conceptualization

Syntagmatic relation → Dependency grammar.



Homonymy & Homophony

The words sound exactly like each other but meanings are different.

If spelling is same → homonymy

If spelling is different → homophony.

- bank → 1) River bank
- 2) Financial inst.
- 3) To rely

Homonymy :- i) Absolute :- No relation whatsoever

ii) Partial :- Little relation [certain forms

The bear eats shoots and leaves sound the same but fn diff → Ex:- lie]

Types of Homonymy:

- i) Same syntactic category + same spelling : lap [run] & lap [body]

→ Spinach

child

→ Ppl who raise us

→ hair

think → Work think → Move
→ Desire.

ii) same syntactic category, different spellings

night / knight

bear / bare

iii) different category, ~~same~~ same spelling

think ; hit

iv) diff category & diff spelling.

red, read ; fare, fair

Polysemy :- Same phonetic form, related meanings
↑ originate

Issue :- 1) Ganga issues from Gangotri:

Edition → 2) Give me the last issue of the Hindu

Give → 3) The librarian issued the book

Topic → 4) The issue for today's discussion

Problem → 5) No issue!

Progeny → 6) The couple died without an issue

Problem → 7) To make an issue

Problem → 8) The chance of completing without issue is slim.

குடும்ப வரவு கொடுமியி
ஏற்கும் வரவு என்கியி
ஏற்கும் வரவு கொடுமியி
ஏற்கும் வரவு கொடுமியி

B II CLASSMATE

Date _____
Page _____

Case :- 1) Law case

- 2) Shell
 - 3) Occurrence
 - 4) Text case
 - 5) Case study
 - 6) suit case, phone case, spectacle case, brief case
 - 7) Pillow case
 - 8) Grammatical Case
 - 9) Criminal case
 - 10) Emergency Case

Polysemy in one language need not extend to other languages

Meaning Inclusion :- Phonologically different, but related meanings.
[Synonymy]

i) **Absolute Synonymy**:- Two words share the exact same meaning.
Very rare. [Well nigh impossible in Eng/Hindi]

ii) **Partial Synonymy**:- Different dialects, origins

Autumn / Fall muffler / scarf Flat / Apartment

Different social meanings though

"Die" is a Thesaurus:- cease living, decease, expire, depart, go, perish
pass away

Informed :- pop off, kick to bucket, croak, kick off/n.

Idiom:- Bite the dust, breathe one's last, give up the ghost

Roget's Thesaurus

sleep in Gadi

Lavatory:- Toilet → restroom → washroom → bathroom

Slang → Loo

Synonymy occurs due to

- ① Origin
- ② Dialect
- ③ Taboo

iii) Near Synonymy:- Synonyms in some cases, need not be related in others

Nearly / Almost

I'm nearly / almost done.

He looks almost / nearly like.

Big / Large

Big boy ; Large boy.

Big / Large Elephant.

Buy / Purchase

Kill - murder, assassinate, slaughter, execute

Laugh - chuckle, giggle, snigger, chortle, guffaw, titter

Walk - stroll, saunter, amble, gait, lop,

brave - courageous, bold, plucky, heroic.

Each of these have a central meaning ~~do or other~~
propositional meaning ←

Guest Lecture :- Padgatra

We have formed associations b/w words in our mental lexicons.

Black → White

Up → Down

Ex:- ① cast:- ② Don't cast the fishing net, it is torn

③ The trees cast their shadows on the still pool

All 4 are
related to

④ Let us cast our votes impartially.

⑤ They have cast her in the role of Juliet.

⑥ Hope that this play has a good cast

⑦ Snakes cast their skin

⑧ We bought the statue cast in brass

⑨ Pour the hot iron into the cast

⑩ Cast the clay in the mould before it dries

② cell:- ② The monk went back to his cell after performing the ceremony

③ The queen bee lay eggs in every cell

④ The investigation cell is still working on the murder case.

⑤ The torch would not work without a high powered cell

⑥ Every living being is made up of cell,

- ③ charge :-
- a) The charges are high for the course
 - b) He has charge of this unit
 - c) The boy is under the charge of his grandfather
 - d) The arrest was made on charge of murder
 - e) She made a charge of for the boy
 - f) He charged at the enemy
 - g) He is charged with energy
 - h) They charge for the services provided
 - i) Hari lent Sita money without charging interest -

We can use the etymology of a word to verify if the main relation of meanings is right.

Two aspects to machine translation:-

- i) Grammar
- ii) Lexicon

Transitivity:- If there is a doer for the verb, it is transitive, else intransitive

Hyponymy and Hypernymy:-

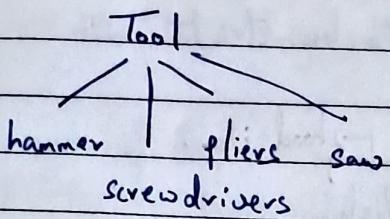
Hierarchical structure.

Member - class relation



Hyponymy

Hypernymy



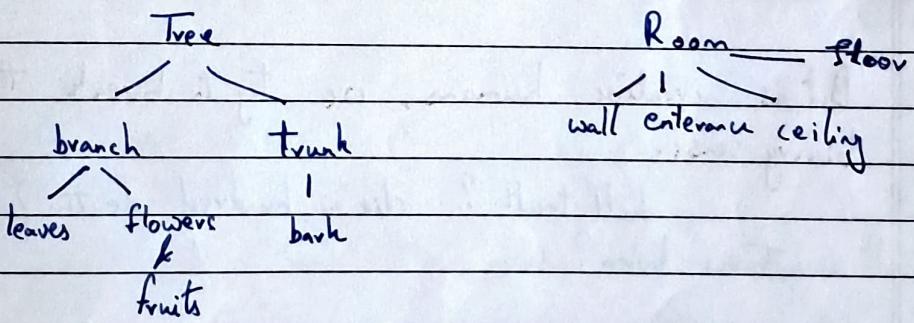
Taxonomic sisterhood :- All members at any given height, related horizontally.

Hiponymy implies entailment

⑩

Mervonymy :-

Another hierarchical structure, deals with part-whole relationship.



Metonymy :- [Part of reference]

The president of France will resign

Reference to Macron.

The media

The film got bad reviews from the press.

The sent-
sent senate

The 'white House' is going to be strict with
immigration laws

She cooked my favourite dish

→ food item.

Transitivity in meronymy is true only if
~~a ⊂ b ⊂ c~~ $a \rightarrow b$ & $b \rightarrow c \rightarrow a \rightarrow c$

Synecdoche :- Check it out

Meaning Exclusion:-

Antonymy:- Mention of one negates the other [binary
antonymy]

dead → not alive

true → not false

But as creative humans, we try to break the
binary sense.

half truth? die a hundred deaths?
twice born?

Polarity / Gradation:-

rich ← → poor

fast ← → slow

hot ← → cold

Presence of intensifier words (Typical, like warm, etc)
to the terms are relative-

o → Is this big or small

Also, one of the terms will be more basic than the other.

Ex:- How old is she? [How young?]

How tall is she? [How short is she?]

Reverses :-

arrive → depart give → take

come → go

Inflate → deflate

Inhale → exhale.

Grammatical class must be the same.

Converses:- Alternate Points of View

Creditor ⇔ Debtor

Child ⇔ Parent

This is the end of lexical relations b/w words within a language.

Truth Value:-

The cat chased the mouse ①

The cat chased an animal ②

② entails ①

The Hydra project demolished 10 buildings

The 10 buildings demolished by the Hydra project were located on govt land.

Two kinds of truth

- (i) Analytic Truth
- (ii) Synthetic Truth.

Analytic :- ^{Predicate} ^{subject}
Subject contains (defines) the predicate

A triangle has three sides.

Analytic Truth is the logical truth.

Synthetic:- Empirical Truths depends on "context".

We deal mainly with Analytic Truths.

Negating the subject or predicate contradicts the other.

A triangle does not have three sides.

Paraphrases:- Two sentences with the same analytic truth.

He is a bachelor

He is not married.

Contradiction:- Do the two statements have contrasting truth values.

Presupposition:- Given a statement, you have to assume something.

The cake in the fridge is chilled.
We assume that \exists a cake in a fridge

Entailment:- The ~~two~~ statements One statement follows the other.

Saddam Hussein was executed : X

Saddam Hussein is dead : Y

$$X \rightarrow Y$$

Hypoonymy is a source of this.

$X \quad Y$ Works only with assertions
 $T \rightarrow T$ / declarations.

$F \rightarrow T/F$ Does not work with negation,
 $T/F \leftarrow T$ question etc.
 $F \leftarrow F$

Synonymy:-

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & & Y \\ T & \rightleftharpoons & T \\ F & \rightleftharpoons & F \end{array}$$

Contradiction :- Invariably False.

The bachelor has a pretty wife

Presupposition:- There is an assumption made by the hearer / reader.

Have you stopped smoking? When was it created?

Your assignment was plagiarized

Statement $\leftarrow X$ $Y \rightarrow$ Assumption

$$T \rightarrow T$$

$$F \rightarrow T$$

$$T/F \leftarrow T$$

$$F \leftarrow F$$

If you were not sparked at home, you would be a better man.

Tautology:- I am my mother's daughter
Boys will be boys
I am my brother's relative.

Semantically vacuous

Invariably true.

Anomaly:- Presuppose a contradiction.

He chased his widow out of the house.

The bachelor beats his wife

Invariably false.