

Reference



- An act by which a speaker (writer) uses language to enable a listener (reader) to identify something.

An act of reference is performed by

- using proper names (John, Mary)
- using noun phrases (a book, my pen)
- using pronouns (he, she, it)

There is a range of references.

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Presupposition (پیش انگاشت)

- Implicit assumption made by the speaker (writer)
- Inference is made by the listener (reader).
- Presupposition is made by the speaker (writer), which may be true or false.

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Inference

- Any additional information used by the listener to create a connection between what is said and what is meant.



پیشخدمت: چلوکیاب که بود؟
مشتري: من!



قصاب: گوساله که بود؟
مشتري: من!

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Presupposition

– Facts whose truth is required for an utterance to be appropriate.

- He doesn't write poems anymore.
- When did you stop smoking?
- She cried before she finished her thesis.
- She died before she finished her thesis.
- Presupposition depends on context.

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Reference & Inference

- Reference is speaker-based.
- Inference is listener-based.



• - برو بالا.
• - از این بالاتر برم می افتم.

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Constancy under negation

- A test of presupposition.
- My brother is an engineer. (I have a brother.)
- My brother is not an engineer. (I have a brother.)

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