

Applied Linguistics.
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Lecture -32.
Linguistics and Applications.

In the domain of applied linguistics, we have looked at several areas from the real-life, from actual society will be see the possibilities of applications of the findings that come from the study of language. Today, we are in a way going to conclude this discussion and they are trying to summarise the discussion in some of the major areas. We have discussed some of these areas in details and we have only mentioned some others obliquely. So, as part of the conclusion I am going to underline the areas where we have seen the applications of the findings about language, applications of what we know from the study of language to real-life issues, to difficulties, to problems and areas that we have only underlined.

I invite many of you and most of you to look at them, to read about them and try to develop a deeper understanding of how findings from the study of language has relevance in studying disciplines which overlap with the applications of language, with the study of language. So, let us begin to the summary and before we have looked at the applications, we have also looked at language, we have tried to briefly introduce to you the acquisition process of language, the structure of language and what it does in various domains is part of the application that we have seen in somewhat details.

So, we have looked at these things, we are going to summarise them and then I hope that this has made sense to you and when you look at the questions and when you read more about these things, you will develop a sharper understanding of what language is all about and how it, how the findings in the study of language is applicable in the domains of society and our lives.

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Introduction

- Applications of ideas developed in the larger domain/discipline of linguistics.
- Linguistics is about everything related to language.
- In other words, study of all aspects of language falls within the discipline of linguistics. For Crystal "linguistics is the science of language. It is the subject whose practitioners devote their energy to understanding why human language is the way it is. They study the history, acquisition, structure, and use of as many languages as possible".
- Agnihotri suggests that most of the research in the study of language has been focused around structure, acquisition, and change (SAC).
- Language is primarily a system of arbitrary sounds. It is highly rule-governed (structured) at the levels of sounds, words, sentences, and discourse.



So, the application of the ideas developed in the larger domain in the discipline of linguistics is what has been the goal of this course. Linguistics is all about language, we can also say everything that we study about language falls in the study of linguistics. The study of all aspects of language is part of linguistics, it is very general description of the discipline. In the words of David Crystal, linguistics is the science of language and it is the subject whose practitioners devote their energy to understanding why human language is the way it is. They study history, acquisition, structure, and the use of many languages as possible.

In the same line Agnihotri suggests that most of the research in the study of language has been focused around structure, acquisition and change, part of the language. If you look at the bulk of research that has been done, they are in the 3 categories. To add little bit more to this which comes more from his findings as well, among the 3 that is structure, acquisition and change, the study of change also refers to the study of use of language in real-world that is the E language part of it. So when we look at the 3, we find that most of it, the bulk of research is also from structure of language.

And beginning from Panini to Chomsky and many others in between and beyond as well have raised the questions that are related to the structure of language. The easiest possible answer to this finding is it is empirically verifiable and easy will be negative term to use here but definitely it is easy to do so. So, that happens to be the reason why most of the questions have been asked in the areas of structure but also the questions to study language in the area of acquisition has yielded much greater impact in the way we understand language now, in

the way we understand applicability of language for solving problems. So, with all that we find and we have seen this in somewhat greater details that language is primarily a system of arbitrary sounds.

It is highly structured and pattern governed, we find dominance of patterns in language at all possible levels are the parts of the study and the aspects of language like sounds, words, sentences, discourse and use. We see a pattern, we have underlined and indicated about it when we studied and when we discussed the details of how developments in linguistic theory, that is the process of construction of linguistic theory on the basis of the empirical study of language have contributed in construction of social theory itself.

So, the same has also constructed and contributed to the construction of the theory of learning as well. So, when we see certain parts, certain things in language are not used in one part of the world, we find a similar pattern of that type being prohibited in other parts of the world as well and to a greater extent it is likely that people of the 2 parts do not interact and interchange ideas frequently.

And they are part of society, they are part of cognition, they are part of use and also we find similarities, we find patterns in at the level of sounds, words and sentences. It is not a mere coincidence that all, almost all the languages of the world will have only a limited set of sounds. It is not a coincidence that languages will share sounds.

It is also not a coincidence that on the basis of limited number of sounds, we have practically infinite number of words. The possibility of construction of words to infinity and the generative capacity of human mind which is underlying it is not a matter of coincidence. Also it is not a matter of forming patterns, particularly when we also find several kinds of phonotactic constraints on construction of words.

We have seen that not all sequence of sounds are allowed. We cannot put any sound with any other sound to form a word. And if we observe such a restriction in one language which is spoken in one part of the world, we also see a high possibility of that pattern, that kind of constraint being observed in completely unrelated genetically or otherwise languages of the other parts of the world.


So, we, it is a short form, it is kind of an abbreviation to say languages structured phenomena and also it reveals a lot when we say it is a phenomena of human mind. And therefore the distinction between I language and E language is significant to observe, however again, I

study of I language and E language separately reveals the possibility of huge part of what we devote to E language is also part of I language itself.

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Sub-disciplines of Linguistics

- Work of scholars like Saussure, Wittgenstein and Freud led social scientist to the discussion of linguistic turn in the construction of social theory in the early 20th century. The concept of 'structure' and emergence of 'structuralism' come from the study of language. The study of language has given birth to several sub-disciplines of study where the role of language and insights from linguistics become apparent. In this module we discuss emergence of some of the disciplines of linguistics.
- Within the broad discipline of linguistics, there are various sub-disciplines which are often organized on the basis of the implications of the study of language to the other disciplines. We give some descriptions of some of the fields below. This is not an exhaustive list at all.



That is a matter of research for the linguists, however what we are looking at in this course and what we are discussing at this point is the domain of linguistics and what it does. So, we have introduced the width of domains and of subdisciplines of linguistics to a greater extent at several levels. What we specifically want to underlined today is something that we have discussed that length but again I want to underline it in part of the summary that walks of scholars like Ferdinand De Saussure, Wittgenstein, Freud who are, when you look at the names of these people, there is contributed in different domains of the study of different aspects of psyche and different aspects of language, different aspects of human life as well.

The studies have led to the studies in different domains by these people have led social scientists to a discussion of some kind of linguistic turn on construction of social theory in the 20th century. The concept of structure and emergence of structuralism comes from the study of language. And it has been taken with all kinds of, all sincerity and seriousness it deserves. The study of language has given birth to several subdisciplines as well. The study where the role of human language and insights from linguistics have become apparent. In so what we have seen that we have discussed the emergence of disciplines of linguistics to the study of language as well.

Within the broad discipline of linguistics, there are various subfields which are often organised on the basis of the implications of the study of language to the other disciplines.

We will give some descriptions of some of these fields and this as I mentioned earlier also exhaustive at all.

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Linguistics and Language Teaching

- Linguistics has generally played a major role in language teaching. It consistently keeps refining our understanding of how children and adults learn languages and how we can improve upon our methods, materials and classroom processes in transacting language and literature teaching courses. One of the major lessons to be learnt from the acquisition of first languages in childhood is that the less you interfere with the learning of language, the better it is acquired.



So, the first part we are going to look at and I will keep referring to the modules that we have made along these lines and then you need to go back and check these things once again with those modules. So, one of the primary discipline that interacts with the findings of linguistics is language teaching. Language teaching as we discussed can be considered one of the oldest enterprise and one of the oldest profession, one of the oldest requirement of humans at all levels of their lives. Humans, we it is a well-known fact though have not established it in discourse that humans speak different languages on different parts of the world. Why old not speak the same language is a question that requires answer at a different level. However, that is not the practical reality, which we know very well.

Also we do not know when humans started to speak, they all we know that long long time ago, really long time ago and most of the answers to that questions, to quote Jackendoff are not substantiated with scientific evidence. Therefore we have ignored that part of study as well, whatever, when humans have interacted with each other in the sense that humans from different part of the world interacted with each other, different parts of the societies interacted with each other, they needed to communicate with each other and therefore independently they realised the requirement for understanding each other's language.


Understanding each other's language or learning each other's language required and gave birth to the discipline of language teaching and in this discipline we find the role of

linguistics to a great extent. Linguistics has generally played a major role in language teaching, it consistently keeps refining our understanding of how children and adults learn language.

And how we improve upon our methods, materials, classroom processes in transacting language and literature teaching courses. One of the major lessons to be learnt from the acquisition of first language in childhood is that the less you interfere with the learning of language, the better it is acquired. Can we implement this to the learning of second language, that also at all stages of our lives, irrespective of when we want to learn language is a matter of, is a question that requires research in the domain of language teaching.

And we have indicated, we have highlighted each one of these questions, we have indicated we have provided with materials on the issues of methods of language teaching, materials of language teaching, classroom processes in transacting language and how to deal with literature in teaching language courses. Please go back to these modules once again to look at what we have to present to you and then of course please develop an independent understanding of these domains, maybe some of you will come up with some revisions in the teaching methods which is an ongoing process.

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- What one needs is a rich exposure in anxiety free situations and some focus on grammar and accuracy through the use of what Krashen calls the Monitor. There is no reason to believe that adults will not continue learning languages in the same way except that the realm of sounds may not approximate to the native variety as our jaws tend to get frozen to the sound systems of the languages we already know.
- Linguistics also helps in improving the grammar exercises and tasks as unlike the traditional grammar that focuses on prescriptive grammatical rules, linguistics values descriptive statements and recognizes variability in the performance of learners as an asset.
- In fact, the recent work done in the domain of language variability and multilingualism has proved to be immense value to the language teachers. For the first time perhaps, teachers are beginning to realize that languages children bring to the school can indeed be used as assets.

What one needs is a rich exposure in anxiety free situations and some focus on grammar and accuracy through the use of what Krashen calls the Monitor. There is no reason to believe that adults will not continue learning language in the same way in accept in the realm of sounds may not approximate to the native variety as our jaws tend to get frozen to the sound

system of the language we already know. It is a physical constraint, physical realities that our lot of parts in our vocal apparatus get frozen at a particular age of maturation. Therefore the way we have matured the sound system of the first language may not yield to the sound systems of the second language.


However following the times of Krashen's method of language teaching, on the basis of the findings of Krashen, it can be suggested that it is possible for grown-up individuals to learn language at any stage. However, a lot of researchers can have questions about this and this requires studies in greater details as well. When we want to look at the parts of language teaching, we find linguistics also helps in improving grammar exercises and tasks as unlike the traditional grammar that focuses on prescriptive aspects of roles and values and scripted statements and organises variability in the performance of learners as an asset.

In fact, recent work done in the domain of language variability and multilingualism has proved to be of immense value to the language teachers. For the first time perhaps, teachers are beginning to realise that language children bring to the school can indeed be used in the classroom, in the process of teaching of language, in the process of transaction of ideas and knowledge to greater extent with greater impact.

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Language Documentation

- The documentation of language has been one of the goals of linguistics since the inception of the discipline. Linguists have been concerned with describing and analyzing undocumented languages. With Franz Boas in the early 1900s, documentation became the main focus of American linguistics until the rise of formal structural linguistics in the mid-20th century. This focus on language documentation was partly motivated by a concern to document the rapidly disappearing minority languages of indigenous peoples. The ethnographic dimension of the approach to language description by Boas has added perspectives in the development of disciplines such as sociolinguistics, anthropological linguistics, and linguistic anthropology, which investigate the relations between language, culture, and society.



Apart from language teaching, language documentation is another area where linguistics has contributed a lot. The documentation of language has been the goal of linguists since the inception of the discipline. Linguists have been concerned with describing and analysing undocumented languages. With Boas in the early 1900, documentation became the main

focus of American linguistics. Until the rise of formal structural linguistics in the mid-20th century, the main goal of the study of language documentation primarily, this focus on language documentation was primarily motivated by concern to document the rapidly disappearing minority languages of the indigenous people. The ethnographic dimensions of the approaches to the language description by Franz Boas has added prescriptives in the development of the discipline such as social linguistics, anthropological linguistics and linguistic anthropology which investigates the relationship between language, culture and society.

So, we see a great role of efforts made in language documentation and studying relationship between language, culture and society as well. Therefore, this has been significant development until the mid-20th century. The loss of indigenous languages is a normal phenomena, it is like loss of humans, it is going to happen. The goal of language documentation is in a serious sense is not objectionable to the extent of documenting language, however lamenting about loss of language brings some sort of unscientific approach in the study of language. In my personal opinion, language remains an object of enquiry and object of serious scientific investigation as long as it keeps human emotions and subjectivity away.

However I do realise that it is hard to keep emotions and subjectivity aside from many types of studies in social sciences not alone language. The farther you keep these 2 from the study of language, the greater degree of scientific value is brought with objectivity in the study of language. When I am speaking about language loss being a natural phenomena, it follows from what I have just described.

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- Even outside North America, the emphasis on linguistic description and documentation gained prominence. Documentation of rapidly dying indigenous languages is becoming a primary focus in many university programs in linguistics. It is also becoming a matter of importance to many governments. Language description is an intensive effort. This usually requires years of field work in the target language before writing a sufficiently accurate reference grammar. Further, the task of documentation requires the linguist to collect a substantial corpus in the language in question, consisting of texts and recordings, both sound and video, which can be stored in an accessible format within open repositories, and used for further research. An understanding of nuanced details of the language has been very helpful in this effort.



Even I would say in North America, the emphasis on linguistic description and documentation gained prominence. This was the requirement, description of rapidly dying indigenous languages is becoming a primary focus in the university programs in linguistics. It is also becoming a matter of importance to many governments as well. Language description is an intensive effort, the effort that goes in language description is not ordinary, that part nobody denies.

This usually requires years of field work in the target language before writing sufficiently accurate reference grammar of a particular language. And that is one of the best thing one can do in documenting a language. The task of documentation requires the linguists to collect substantial corpus in the language in the assisting of texts and recordings as well in the modern time as it is easily possible, both sounds and videos which can be stored in an accessible format within open repositories and used for further research to come.

That will be a unique and amazing contribution for the study of language, particularly for the historical significance. And understanding the nuanced details of language has been very helpful in this effort without an understanding of what goes in recording of data, what goes on what we need to document for future research is significant and that comes from the study of language.

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Translation

- Translation includes written text and spoken language across mediums (digital and print). To transmute the meaning from one language into another is translation. Translation becomes an important means in communication when speakers of two languages need to understand each other. In the modern time with the developments in technology, machines help translate from one language to the other to a great extent. This is developed as a new branch in computational linguistics. This works as an automated or programmed facility to translate words and phrases between any two or more given languages. This depends on nuanced understanding of several sub-disciplines of linguistics. There is no doubt that there is much merit in saying that things said in one language can never be accurately be translated into another language, given that languages are so deeply culturally rooted and the range covered by a lexical item in one language will be very different from the equivalent word in the target language.



The domain of translation is yet another area where we see the influence of, where the awareness about the study of language yields lot of better results. Translation includes written text and spoken language across mediums that is digital or print. To transmute the meaning from one language to another is what goes in translation, is what happens in translation, it is a serious discipline. It becomes an important means in communication when speakers of 2 languages need to understand each other. In the modern time, with the development of technology and machines, we get a lot of help in translation from one language to the other 2 I greater extent.

This is developed as a new branch of computational linguistics and as we have discussed in the domain of language and computers, the process of parsing and recognising and conversion from text to speech or speech to text is what has revolutionised the domains of translation. Unlike language teaching and documentation, this also depends, the reliability of car collection depends on the nuanced understanding of several subdisciplines of linguistics too. There is no doubt that there is much merit in saying that things said in one language can never be actually transferred or translated into another.


Given that languages are so deeply culturally rooted and the range covered by a lexical item in one language will vary in different forms and it is difficult to find an equivalent word in the target language. Given that limitations and difficulty, understanding a nuanced understanding of several subdisciplines of language at the level of sounds, words, pragmatics, structures and so on can yield at results in translations either by machine or by humans. One

of the areas of linguistics where again we see the understanding of subdisciplines of linguistics relevant is Bio linguistics.

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Bio-linguistics

- Biolinguistics began to take shape half a century ago in discussions influenced by developments in biology and mathematics in the early postwar years. Eric Lenneberg's seminal 1967 study *Biological Foundations of Language* remains a basic document of the field. The term Biolinguistics was first used in 1974 for the first time. Many of the leading questions discussed there remain very much alive.
- One of the basic questions to be asked from the biological point of view is the extent to which apparent principles of language are unique to this cognitive system. Even more basic question from the biological point of view is how much of language can be given a principled explanation, whether or not homologous elements can be found in other domains or organisms.



It began to take shape half a century ago in discussions influenced by developments in biology and mathematics in early post-war years. Eric Lenneberg's seminal 1967 study biological foundations of language remains the basic document in this field. The bio linguistics was first used, that is the term bio linguistics was first used in 1974 for the first time.

Many of the leading questions discussed there remains very much alive until today. Researchers from all subdisciplines of linguistics have tried to approach and answer questions from their disciplinary understandings. One of the basic questions to be asked from the biological point of view is to, is the extent to which apparent principles of language are unique to this cognitive system.

Even more basic questions from the biological perspective is how much of language can be given principled explanations, whether or not homogeneous elements can be found in other domains of organism. These are relevant questions for understanding language as a biological endowment.


We have looked at generative phenomena which is one of the most powerful phenomena in the study of language and most powerful linguistic theory that deals with language. And in that we see the role of biological foundations of language, the role of human mind and a huge

corpora of questions in the domain of cognitive science come from the questions raised in by Bio linguistics and generator theory of linguistic analysis.

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Computational Linguistics

- The application of the fundamental understandings of language to machines is called computational linguistics. This is an interdisciplinary field concerned with the statistical or rule-based modeling of natural language from a computational perspective. Traditionally, computational linguistics was usually performed by computer scientists who had specialized in the application of computers to the processing of a natural language. Computational linguists often work as members of interdisciplinary teams including linguists, language experts, and computer scientists.



Computational linguistics also we have looked at it in somewhat details, that is to say what goes in computational linguistics, what is the relationship between language and computers and how does, what are the questions that researchers raising are trying understand and find answers to in this domain of the study of language. The applications of the fundamental understanding of language to machines is called computational linguistics.

This is an interdisciplinary field concerned with statistical or role-based modelling of natural language from a computational perspective. Traditionally, computers and computer scientists have, computer scientists have specialised in the applications of computers to the processing of a natural language. Computational linguistics often works as a member of the interdisciplinary term including linguistic, in interdisciplinary teams including linguists, language experts and computer scientists.

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- In general, computational linguistics draws from the areas such as linguistics, computer science, artificial intelligence, mathematics, logic, philosophy, cognitive science, cognitive psychology, psycholinguistics, anthropology and neuroscience, among others. Computational linguistics has theoretical and applied components, where theoretical computational linguistics takes up issues in theoretical linguistics and cognitive science, and applied computational linguistics focuses on the practical outcome of modeling human language use.



We need to understand mathematical algorithm to understand machines, at the same time we need to understand fundamental underlying patterns of language to see the applicability of language to machines. In general, computational linguistics draws from the areas such as linguistics, computer science, artificial intelligence, mathematics, logic, philosophy, cognitive science, cognitive psychology, psycholinguistics, anthropology and neuroscience among others.

So, clearer perspective from these fields of study, some are related to one another and some are too far apart from the basic assumptions, basic disciplinary assumptions from one another. Computational linguistics has theoretical and applied components where theoretical computational linguistics takes up issues in theoretical linguistics and cognitive sounds. And applied computational linguistics focuses on practical outcome of modelling human language use.

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Forensic Linguistics

- Forensic linguistics is yet another emerging domain of the study of language. It is about the application of linguistic analysis for forensic significance. Forensic analysis investigates on the style, language, lexical use, and other linguistic and grammatical features used in the legal context to provide evidence in the court of law and crime scene. Forensic linguists have considerably contributed expertise in criminal investigations.



The moment it goes to modelling, that is applying mathematical models to convert it into electrical signals for natural language through artificial language for the use of language, it requires lot of intricate mathematical details as well. Forensic linguistics has existed ever since human existence, it is just that the name comes in the recent times. Forensic linguistics is an emerging domain in the modern time but it has existed ever since. It is about application of linguistic analysis for the significance of evidence, forensic analysis investigates on the style of language, lexical use and other linguistic and grammatical features used in legal context to provide evidence in the court of law and it primarily solves underlying questions of crime scenes.

It has considerably contributed in criminal investigations and since it intersects with legal system, it requires a careful and nuanced understanding to get to the precision of what it has to do and where it has to yield results. Therefore the, or as part of the limitations of forensic linguistics, it should not be based on perceptions. The findings was be based on nuanced understanding of language.

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Clinical Linguistics

- Clinical linguistics is the application of linguistic theory in the field of speech pathology. Speech pathologists work on corrective measures to cure communication disorders. Insights from the study of sounds (phonetics) and sounds system (phonology) play vital roles in the field of clinical linguistics. Crystal (2001) describes the field of clinical linguistics as 'the application of linguistic sciences to the study of language disability in all its forms'. Many other branches where application of linguistic insights is relevant such as forensic linguistics, neuro-linguistics, and computational linguistics can also be called sub-branches of clinical linguistics.



Clinical linguistics is yet another domain, we have discussed it in great detail while discussing language and disabilities. We also have several experts talking about what goes in clinical linguistics in various ways. So, it is the application of linguistic theory in speech pathology and for the purpose of corrective measures to secure communication disorders. Insights from the study of sounds and phonetics and sound systems and phonology play wider roles in this field that we call clinical linguistics.

Again David Crystal describes the field of clinical linguistics as application of linguistic science to the study of language disability in all its forms. Many other branches where applications, many other branches require applications of linguistics insights and is relevant, such as what we have discussed just now forensic linguistics and computational linguistics.

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Neurolinguistics

- Neurolinguistics is the study of the neural mechanisms in the human brain that control the comprehension, production, and acquisition of language. As an interdisciplinary field, neuro-linguistics draws methodology and theory from fields such as neuroscience, linguistics, cognitive science, neurobiology, communication disorders, neuropsychology, and computer science. Researchers are drawn to the field from a variety of backgrounds, bringing along a variety of experimental techniques as well as widely varying theoretical perspectives. Much work in neurolinguistics is informed by models in psycholinguistics and theoretical linguistics, and is focused on investigating how the brain can implement the processes that theoretical and psycholinguistics propose are necessary in producing and comprehending language. Neurolinguists study the physiological mechanisms by which the brain processes information related to language, and evaluate linguistic and psycholinguistic theories, using aphasiology, brain imaging, electrophysiology, and computer modeling.



One yet another discipline where we require such a thing is called neuro linguistics. So, new linguistics is the study of neural mechanism in human brain that controls the comprehension, production and acquisition of language. So, what really controls the comprehension aspects and production aspects in human brain is part of the, is becomes the domain of the study in neuro linguistics.

As an interdisciplinary field, neuro linguistics draws methodology in theory from fields such as neuroscience, linguistics, cognitive science, neurobiology, communication disorders, neuropsychology and computer science. Researchers are drawn from the fields from a variety of background bringing around variety of experimental techniques as well as widely varying the article perspective too.

Much work in neuro linguistics is informed by models in psycholinguistics and theoretical linguistics and is focused on investigating how the brain can implement the process that is theoretical and psycholinguistics proposed are necessary in producing and comprehending language.

Neuro linguistics study the psychological mechanism by which the brain processes information related to language and evaluate linguistic and psycholinguistic theory using physiology, brain mapping, brain imaging, electrophysiology and computer modelling. It is a technical domain but the important point to underline here is it requires insights from the study of language.

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Psycholinguistics

- Psycholinguistics or psychology of language is the study of the psychological and neurobiological factors that enable humans to acquire, use, comprehend and produce language. Initial forays into psycholinguistics were largely philosophical or educational schools of thought, due mainly to their location in departments other than applied sciences (e.g., cohesive data on how the human brain functioned). Modern research makes use of biology, neuroscience, cognitive science, linguistics, and information science to study how the brain processes language, and less so the known processes of social sciences, human development, communication theories and infant development, among others.



We have just mentioned the term psycholinguistics which is a related domain to neuro linguistics. In psycholinguistics or psychology of language, we study the psychological and neurobiological factors that enable humans to acquire and use, that is comprehend and produce language. Initially it was largely philosophical or educational, due to, however it requires huge amount of data to look at the details of things that are of psychological in nature for the study in this domain. Modern research makes use of biology, neuroscience, cognitive science, linguistics and information science study how brain processes language.

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- There are a number of sub disciplines with non-invasive techniques for studying the neurological workings of the brain; for example, neurolinguistics has become a field in its own right. Psycholinguistics has roots in education and philosophy, and in 2013 covers the "cognitive processes" that make it possible to generate a grammatical and meaningful sentence out of vocabulary and grammatical structures, as well as the processes that make it possible to understand utterances, words, text, etc. Developmental psycholinguistics studies children's ability to learn language.



There are number of subdisciplines with non-invasive techniques for studying the neurobiological workings of the brain for example, new linguistics has become a field in its own right. Psycholinguistics has roots in education and philosophy and in 2013 covers the cognitive process that makes it possible to generate grammatical and meaningful sentences of the vocabulary and grammatical structure as well as the process that makes it possible to understand utterances, words, texts, etc. Developmental psycholinguistics study children's ability to learn language as well.

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Language and Education

- Language and Education are in unique relationship with each other. Language is a medium for construction, articulation, and transmission of many forms of knowledge. It is a means of understanding our societies, our past, present and future, our ideas, culture and knowledge. It is a primary means of a child's socialization that structures her thought processes in important ways. It also interacts with other components of life in general and education in particular such as the social, political and economic power structures.



Last but not the least, yet another domain that we have focused in this course is language and education. The role of language and education, in particular why the role of language in the greater domain of education cannot be put at periphery, rather what language does in transmitting and dissemination of information in education has to become the central aspect of education. It has a unique relationship with each other.

Language as I just mentioned a medium for construction, articulation and transmission of any form of information, that we also call knowledge system. It is means of understanding our society, our past, present and future, our ideas, culture and knowledge. It is primary means of child's socialisation that structures the thought process in significant ways. It also interacts with other components of life in general and education in particular such as social, political and economic power structure.

With that kind of significance, we need to look at language in a serious sense. The study of variability, the study of vernacular aspects of language, the distinction between standard and

vernacular, the question of what children brings to school, a closer examination of what people really speak and the significance of what people speak being part of the education system, the findings of research where it has been claimed that academic achievement depends on the multilingual ability. It is closely related to social tolerance and social structures. All these things have come up through the study of language and they only underline the significance of the study of language in the domains of education. We are in the domains of education, the central medium is language.

We leave this thing right here as we have discussed some of these things in greater details in the module on language and education and I once again invite you to go back and look at the significance of it. Not only does go back and look at these things, please try to dwell upon these things, think about these issues and maybe you will come up with a better and your own understanding of these issues.

Thank you. Hope you enjoyed this course, if you have questions about any one of the topics discussed in this course, please feel free to interact with others directly on the forum that is always functional 24 x 7 and we will try to get back to your questions as soon as we can. Thank you.