

LLINVAC03. PSYCHOLOGY OF LANGUAGE

Learning Objectives:

After having studied this course, the students are able to:

- Understand the nature of language, the distinction between how language and mind are interdependent and interconnected with human brain.
- Know how language is processed and make distinction between language acquisition and learning.
- Have a sound knowledge on theories of language acquisition, as well as linguistic theories.

Unit- 1: Science of Language

Definition of Language - language as science -Distinction between human and non-human language - Origin of language - Biological foundation of Language - Human Brain: relationship between language and mind.

Unit- 2: Language in Mind

Language Acquisition Vs. language learning - Generative foundation of language acquisition - Language and Thought - Whorf, linguistic determinism, and linguistic relativity – Whorf's comeback -A Description of the Language-Processing System.

Unit -3: Acquisition

Language acquisition device - Universal grammar –theories of language Acquisition and/or learning- I-language and Innateness - Patterns and Universal Grammar- The driving forces of language development – Individual differences in learning.

Unit-4: Language Development

Perception and Categorization of Phonemes - Solving the Segmentation Problem - Infant-directed speech - Statistical Learning and Speech Segmentation - Learning Word Meanings - Syntactic bootstrapping - Acquisition of Morphological and Syntactic Knowledge.

Unit- 5: Language Pitfalls

Phonological encoding - The analysis of hesitations - The neuropsychology of speech production - Speech errors – Semantic networks - Combining concepts - Processing figurative language - Syntactic planning–Concept of spoken word recognition - Text and discourse processing - Language deficit/ loss.

Reference Books:

1. Chomsky, N. (2006). *Language and Mind*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
2. Harley, T. A. (2014). *The psychology of language: From data to theory* (4th ed.). Psychology Press.

3. Hauser, M.D., Chomsky, N., and Fitch, W.T. (2002). 'Faculty of language: What is it, who has it, and how did it evolve?' *Science*, 298, 1569-1579.
4. Jackendoff, R. (1993). *Patterns in human mind*. New York: Harvester Wheatsheaf.
5. Jackendoff, R. (2014). 'How did language begin?' Retrieved from <http://www.linguisticsociety.org/files/LanguageBegin.pdf>
6. Pinker, S. and Jackendoff, R. (2004). 'The faculty of language: What's special about it?' *Cognition*, 95, 201-236.
7. Pool, G. (2011). *Syntactic theory* (2 ed). London/New York: Palgrave Macmillan