

Psycholinguistics .

The study of the relationship between linguistic behaviour and psychological processes, &.

Theories of language Development .

Chomsky his contribution is to naturalist perspective which states that language is a innate ability

— he proposed the human nervous system is equipped with language acquisition device (LAD) or Acquisition Model (AM) which is a neurological system prewired in such a way that individual is able to process and receive language

— LAD is not a structure in a brain but a innate ability / capacity to learn grammar.

— He said, the basic structure of language is biological ~~also~~ channelled

— In the process of language acquisition children merely learn the peculiarities of language of their society ~~and~~ not the basic structure of language

— He pointed out that while language of the world differ in their surface character (word sequence in a verbal expression) is called surface structure, they have some basic similarities in their composition (meaning and grammatical relations) is called deep structure.

— Chomsky pointed 3 situations where surface structure can be misleading

(i) different surface structure, that is in different order or words have identical meaning that is identical deep structure.

"Mohan ate the food"
"The food was eaten by Mohan"

(ii) The situation where sentence with identical surface structure tend to have different meaning

They are eating apples

(iii) There are situations where two or more ~~are~~ many
They are racing horses
① racing horses ② group of people are racing horses

Chomsky said that Transformational grammar is biologically built into the functional of human being.

Transformational grammar is set of highly precise rules for generating acceptable sentences.

- Chomsky did not claim that child is endowed with specific language like English, Hindi, Spanish etc, he simply suggested that children possess an inborn capacity of generating grammar.

CRITICISM.

- Lack of evidence to support this theory

- We do not know where the LAD is its an hypothetical explanation

- model cannot explain why Indian with learning disabilities with down syndrome have delay language

Whorf's View: Thinking depends upon language

- 1956 Whorf proposed that the language we use determine the structure of ~~but~~ our thought process.
- Whorf's work is closely related to work of his teacher / Edward Sapir as a consequence, the view that language determines thought is usually referred to as the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis.

The idea that language determines thoughts is known as linguistic ~~by~~ ~~relativly~~ hypothesis

- Acc to this, people who speak different languages tend to perceive the world in different way because their thinking is determined partly by words available to them.
- This idea of Whorf study was developed due to the studies of Native American languages such as Apache and Hopi.
- He claimed that different language impose different ways of thinking and viewing the world by their speakers.
- Ex Hopi have no words that refer to time it must have a different conception of time as compared to those who have.
- Another old proof is Eskimo have different words related to snow but English speaking people only have one 'snow' enables Eskimo to think differently about it than

Unfortunately this evidence proved to be myth and false than really because english speaking people also have words related to snow.

— There is another example that if colour determines thinking, then the people who have many names for colours, should be better at thinking and making discriminations among colours than those whose language has only a few colour names.