

THE KEY FUNCTIONS OF HUMAN LANGUAGE DISCUSSION

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Ferdinand de Saussure /1857-1913/
admits the Signification function of
linguistic sign to play a key role in
language construction.

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One of the most famous and influential opponents of Saussurean standpoint on linguistic system is **Wilhelm von Humboldt /1767-1835/**.

WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT FUNCTION OF
LANGUAGE – COGNITIVE OR
COMMUNICATIVE?

"DIE SPRACHE IST DAS BILDENDE ORGAN
DES GEDANKENS"

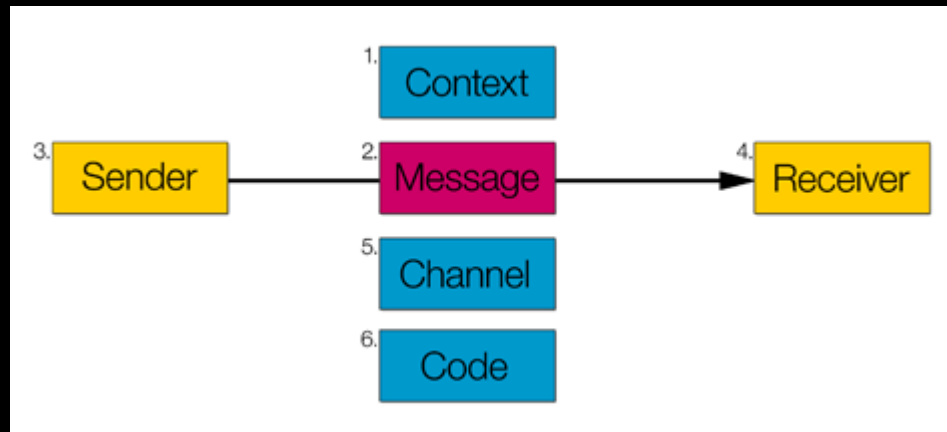
Humboldt, W. von

THE KEY FUNCTIONS OF HUMAN LANGUAGE DISCUSSION

Influenced by the Organon-Model by Karl Bühler and other sources of linguistic research, Roman Jakobson /1896 – 1982/ distinguishes **six communication functions**, each associated with a dimension or factor of the communication process.

By Roman Jakobson /1896 – 1982/

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| Target factor and function no. | TARGET FACTOR | SOURCE FACTOR | FUNCTION |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| 1 | Context | Message | Referential |
| 2 | Message | Message | Poetic |
| 3 | Addresser | Message | Expressive |
| 4 | Addressee | Message | Conative |
| 5 | Contact | Message | Phatic |
| 6 | Code | Message | Metalingual |

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| TARGET FACTOR | SAMPLE | FUNCTION |
|---------------|---|--------------------|
| Context | "London is the capital of UK" | Referential |
| Message | <i>And the stars never rise but I feel the bright eyes Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;</i> | Poetic |
| Addresser | "Yummy!" | Expressive |
| Addressee | "Keep calm and learn Linguistics" | Conative & Emotive |
| Contact | "Hello?" | Phatic |
| Code | "What do you mean by 'quark'?"; "Is English a Romanic [rə'mæni:k] or Germanic. [dʒɜ:'mæni:k] language?" | Metalingual |

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One of the six functions is always the dominant function in a text and usually related to the type of text.

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Meanwhile the communication function is always there. And it is the supra-function of language in action.

1. THE REFERENTIAL FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

AM |,refə'renfəl|; *BR* |,rɛfə'rɛnf(ə)||
means relating to a referent, in particular
having the external world rather than a
text or language as a referent; implies
Focus on context.

1. THE REFERENTIAL FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

Reference or *Bedeutung*, Frege's term for that which an expression designates.

2. THE REFERENTIAL FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

G. Frege's story about VENUS as Evening
Star and Morning star (l'aurore [oʀɔʀ])

*There was an iciness, a sinking,
a sickening of the heart –*

[i:s'θetɪk] / poetic [pəu'etɪk]

2. THE AESTHETIC / POETIC FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

*And the silken sad uncertain rustling
of each purple curtain
Thrilled me – filled me with ...*

3. THE EXPRESSIVE FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

expressive [ɪk'spresɪv] function of speech
clearly indicates their feelings or intentions
of the speaker.

4. THE CONATIVE FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

“where language is being used to influence others, we have a conative function”

4. THE CONATIVE FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

conative ['kɒnətiʋ] - an adjective,
denoting a word or structure that
expresses attempted action as opposed to
action itself.

4. THE CONATIVE FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

The conative function is frequently carried by commands, prohibitions, requests, permissions, advice, invitations, etc.

4. THE CONATIVE FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

The conative function is generally friendly with referential function, but unlike the latter it cannot be analyzed in terms of truth value.

4. THE CONATIVE FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

Roman Jakobson says that unlike declarative sentences, imperatives (linked to the conative function) cannot be tested for their truth value.

['fæti:k]

5. THE PHATIC FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

is conceived as denoting or relating to language used for general purposes of social interaction, rather than to convey specific information or ask questions.

['fæti:k]

5. THE PHATIC FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

Phatic speech (especially of conversational phrases) is viewed as used to establish social contact and to express sociability rather than specific meaning

5. THE PHATIC ['FÆTɪK] FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

Utterances such as 'Hello', 'How are you?' and 'Nice morning, isn't it?' are phatic.

PS. Phatic ['fæti:k] etymology: from Greek phat(os) spoken + '-ic'.

5. THE PHATIC ['FÆTɪk] FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

Phatic speech is used to attract attention, establish a contact and manage it. So such phrases as “See you later!” are essentially no less phatic than “Hello, I am glad to see you”.

6. THE METALINGUAL FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

Any metalanguage is language or symbols used when language itself is being discussed or examined.

6. THE METALINGUAL FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

This one is often used for checking code working.
In logic and linguistics, a metalanguage is a language used to make statements about statements in another language.

6. THE METALINGUAL FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

Metalanguage is any natural or artificial language by means of which another language is described. In the most general sense, the meta-language is a language for describing some or any language. Described language is called target language.

6. THE METALINGUAL FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

Meta-language is the **language** teachers and learners use to talk about language, learning and teaching. E.G. Words and phrases such as 'verb', 'noun', 'present perfect continuous', 'phrasal verb' and 'reported speech' are all examples of common classroom **meta-language**.

THE LIST OF KEY FUNCTIONS OF HUMAN LANGUAGE DISCUSSION

1. referential (: contextual information)
2. aesthetic/poetic (: self-reflection)
3. emotive (: self-expression)

THE LIST OF KEY FUNCTIONS OF HUMAN LANGUAGE DISCUSSION

- 4. conative (: vocative or imperative addressing of receiver)
- 5. phatic (: checking channel working)
- 6. metalingual (: checking code working)

More readings on

THE LIST OF KEY FUNCTIONS OF HUMAN LANGUAGE DISCUSSION

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THE KEY FUNCTIONS OF HUMAN LANGUAGE DISCUSSION

The whole process of text construction maybe viewed as "the projection of the principle of equivalence from the axis of selection to the axis of combination".

THE KEY FUNCTIONS OF HUMAN LANGUAGE

DISCUSSION

So the process of text construction maybe viewed as a sort of *linearisation of the paradigmatic relationships deep structure.*

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DISCUSSION: UBIQUITY OF DEIXIS

deixis ['deɪksɪs, 'dʌɪksɪs]

deals with things like point of view, status, role, interpersonal distance, patterns of relationship.

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DISCUSSION: UBIQUITY OF DEIXIS

deixis ['deɪksɪs, 'dʌɪksɪs]

comes from Greek verb deiknūnai 'to show';
literally 'demonstrative force, reference'.

Implies the use of deictic words, forms, or
expressions (see also shifters).

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DISCUSSION: UBIQUITY OF DEIXIS

"/ signifies "the person who is uttering the present instance of the discourse containing /."
Émile Benveniste

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DISCUSSION: UBIQUITY OF DEIXIS

"by introducing the situation of "address," we obtain a symmetrical definition for *you* as "the individual spoken to in the present instance of discourse containing the linguistic instance of *you*."

Émile Benveniste

THE ISSUE OF DISTINCTIVE TRAITS OF HUMAN LANGUAGE DISCUSSION

Émile Benveniste (French: [bɛ̃venist])

/1902-1976/

This is a topic for student's presentation.

THE LINGUISTIC SIGN DISCUSSION

THANKS FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!

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