

A104/A304 SPRING 2006 Bob Mucci Quiz # 8

Match one to one: each term is used once:

Phonetics

morphemes

kinesics

symbol

signal

Phonemes

syntax

proxemics

larynx

duality of patterning

- _____ gestures, postures, and facial expressions that communicate
- _____ the use of space by people when talking and/or interacting
- _____ are the smallest units of language that have meaning; a word or a prefix or suffix
- _____ is the description and study of the sounds of a language, without regard to meaning
- _____ are the smallest units of sound in a language that make a difference in meaning; each of the units is actually a set of sounds that the speakers hear as the same sound
- _____ the rules for combining words into sentences and longer statements
- _____ the section of the throat that contains the vocal cords
- _____ the multiple levels of all human language that Noam Chomsky says is “hard-wired” in the brain: meaningless sounds combine into a limited number of units with meanings; those units then are combined into an infinite number of sentences.
- _____ an instinctive communication that indicates an emotion, like a scream
- _____ signs, emblems, spoken units, etc, that are given an arbitrary meaning

Multiple choice: circle the letter of the ONE best answer:

1. Which is TRUE about language in Apes?

- A. An orangutan can be trained to speak the sounds of English as well as a 6 year old human child
- B. Chimpanzees have learned to read and write, and compose poetry
- C. Apes can learn a few hundred signs in American Sign Language and combine them into sentences
- D. Apes can communicate, but they cannot deceive: they are unable to tell a lie.
- E. All of the above are true

2. “Descriptive Linguistics” refers to:

- A. The ideal version of a language
- B. The study of how people actually do speak, the “real”
- C. The Prescriptive grammar you learned in school
- D. The study of gestures not sounds
- E. The study and description of the larynx

3. As they learn English, many Chinese speakers do make the error “Flied Lice” because:

- A. They add bugs to rice in China
- B. They eat bugs instead of rice in China
- C. The Chinese word for rice sounds like the Chinese word for lice
- D. The sounds of R and L are both in the same phoneme in Chinese, but in different phonemes in English
- E. They are confused by the syntax of English

4. Humans are more likely to choke on food than other animals because:

- A. In order to produce the sounds of speech, our larynx is lower in our throat than other animals’
- B. We do not have the fine neuromuscular control of the tongue and lips that other animals do
- C. We have such small teeth
- D. We eat with knives and forks

5. Which is TRUE?

- A. Foraging people have more babies than people who live by intensive agriculture.
- B. Children born to forager mothers are less healthy and less nourished than intensive agriculture children.
- C. Foraging parents desire large families to help with the food quest; agriculturalists do not.
- D. Women who breast feed a child for years and eat a low fat diet are unlikely to get pregnant soon.
- E. All of these are true.

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____

Bonus Question: Why did the Tiv of Africa think that Hamlet behaved badly in the story by Shakespeare?