

B.A./ B.Sc.-Sem-II (Anthropology)

Paper- III Unit-I

Language (Bhasha)

Language, a system of conventional spoken, manual, or written symbols by means of which human beings, as members of a social group and participants in its culture, express themselves. The functions of language include communication, the expression of identity, play, imaginative expression, and emotional release.

Definitions of Language

Henry Sweet, an English phonetician and language scholar, stated: "Language is the expression of ideas by means of speech-sounds combined into words. Words are combined into sentences, this combination answering to that of ideas into thoughts."

Language interacts with every aspect of human life in society, and it can be understood only if it is considered in relation to society.

Language is the method of human communication, either spoken or written, consisting of the use of words in a structured and conventional way.

Language is a system of communication used by a particular country or community a system of communication consisting of sounds, words, and grammar, or the system of communication used by people in a particular country or type of work.

Dialect (Boli)

Dialect is a particular form of a language which is peculiar to a specific region or social group. Such as regional language, local language, local tongue, local speech, local parlance.

Dialect is a form of a language spoken in a particular geographical area or by members of a particular social class or occupational group, distinguished by its vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation

Dialect is a provincial, rural, or socially distinct variety of a language that differs from the standard language, especially when considered as substandard.

Dialect is a special variety of a language.

For Example: When talking about the German language, the term German dialect is only used for the traditional regional varieties.

Phonemes (ध्वनिग्राम)

Meaning: Phoneme is one of a small set of speech sounds that are distinguished by the speakers of a particular language.

Phonemes are tiny units of sound in speech. When phonemes are combined, they can make up words.

A **Phoneme** is the smallest unit of sound in speech. When we teach reading we teach children which letters represent those sounds. For example – the word ‘hat’ has 3 phonemes – ‘h’ ‘a’ and ‘t’.

It is generally agreed that there are approximately 42 or 44 sounds in English, with some variation dependent on accent and articulation. The 44 English **phonemes** are represented by the 26 letters of the alphabet individually and in combination.

English Phonemes, Spellings, Example Words

Phoneme	Spelling(s) and Example Words
/A/	a (table), a_e (bake), ai (train), ay (say)
/a/	a (flat)
/b/	b (ball)
/k/	c (cake), k (key), ck (back)
/d/	d (door)
/E/	e (me), ee (feet), ea (leap), y (baby)
/e/	e (pet), ea (head)
/f/	f (fix), ph (phone)
/g/	g (gas)
/h/	h (hot)
/I/	i (I), i_e (bite), igh (light), y (sky)
/i/	i (sit)
/j/	j (jet), dge (edge), g[e, i, y] (gem)
/l/	l (lamp)
/m/	m (my)
/n/	n (no), kn (knock)
/O/	o (okay), o_e (bone), oa (soap), ow (low)
/o/	o (hot)
/p/	p (pie)
/kw/	qu (quick)
/r/	r (road), wr (wrong)
/s/	s (say), c[e, i, y] (cent)
/t/	t (time)
/U/	u (future), u_e (use), ew (few)
/u/	u (thumb), a (about), e (loaded), o (wagon)
/v/	v (voice)
/w/	w (wash)
/ks/ or /gz/	x (box, exam)
/y/	y (yes)
/z/	z (zoo), s (nose)
/OO/	oo (boot), u (truth), u_e (rude), ew (chew)
/oo/	oo (book), u (put)
/oi/	oi (soil), oy (toy)

/ou/	ou (out), ow (cow)
/aw/	aw (saw), au (caught), a[l] (tall)
/ar/	ar (car)
/sh/	sh (ship), ti (nation), ci (special)
/hw/	wh (white)
/ch/	ch (chest), tch (catch)
/th/ or / <u>th</u> /	th (thick, this)
/ng/	ng (sing), n (think)
/zh/	s (measure)
/er/	er (her), ir (sir), ur (fur)

Morphemes (शब्द का भाग)

Morpheme is a meaningful morphological unit of a language that cannot be further divided (e.g. *in*, *come*, *-ing*, forming *incoming*).

In linguistics, a **Morpheme** is the smallest grammatical unit in a language. In other words, it is the smallest meaningful unit of a language.

A **Morpheme** is the smallest meaningful unit of a language which is not further broken down: Example *out*, *go*, *-ing* = *outgoing*

A **Morpheme** as an Affix. An affix is a bound **morpheme**, which means that it is exclusively attached to a free **morpheme** for meaning. Prefixes and suffixes are the most common examples.

Word	Suffix	Exemplars
Teach	er	Teacher
Child	hood	Childhood
Hope	less	Hopeless

Group

Literally, a group simply means a collection or congregation or simply an aggregate. But in Sociology, the concept of social group is different. It is conceptualized differently than any of the above meanings.

According To MacIver and Page-"Group" is any collection of persons bound together by a distinctive set of social relations". Or

"Any collection of human beings who are brought into social relationship with each other".

Marian Smith defined it as a 'unit consisting of plural members who have collective perception of their unity' and whose members act in a unitary manner towards certain ends'.

Almost the similar lines, the American Sociologist Cooley talked about primary and secondary groups. He called primary groups as 'Face-to-Face' groups in which their small size, proximity of the members and enduring character of relations formed the characteristic features. On the other hand, the groups of

comparatively bigger size and with formal 'touch and go' type of relations were characterized as secondary groups.

Institutions

The term "institution" commonly applies to both informal institutions such as customs, or behavior patterns important to a society, and to particular formal institutions created by entities such as the government and public services. Primary or meta-institutions are institutions such as the family that are broad enough to encompass other institutions.

Definition

According to MacIver and Page,' Institutions are the established forms of procedure characteristic of a group activity'. According to Young An institution is a set of folkways and mores integrated round a principal function of society'. As such, in every society certain recognized and established set of rules, traditions, usages are collectively called as **institutions**. That is certain forms of procedure, recognized and accepted by society, governing the relations between individuals and groups. Law, Marriage, Educational system and systems of Governments are some of the main institutions.

In view of the above, the concept of institution characterizes:-

- (i) Means of controlling individuals
- (ii) They involve group activities
- (iii) Have standardized set of behaviour as norms
- (iv) Have aim content ie. directed to the fulfillment of certain primary needs of men.

Thus institutions are not the groups, but they involve group activities, the actors are provided by the groups associated with an institution called as **Associations**.

With Best Wishes For Bright Future & Carrier

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