



# Morphology and analysis in descriptive linguistics

Karpati Enzo\*

Department of Linguistics and English Language, University of Lancaster, Lancaster, Lancashire, UK

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## DESCRIPTION

Descriptive linguistics is the objective analysis and description of how a language is actually used (or used in the past) by a language community. All academic research in linguistics is descriptive. Like all other scientific disciplines, we try to describe reality without preconceived notions of what reality should be. Modern descriptive linguistics is based on a structural approach to language, exemplified in the work of Leonard Bloomfield and others. This type of linguistics uses different methods to describe the language, such as Basic data collection and different types of collection methods. It examines the form and function of language and applies theoretical approaches to the analysis of descriptive and sociolinguistic data. Modern theoretical linguistics research often uses quantitative/computational tools, methods and models to support and enhance qualitative scientific interpretation of the linguistic phenomena under study.

In constructing a language system, language is primary and writing is secondary. Not only is the language ancient, but all writing systems are based on phonetic units, but we capture all the information conveyed in language through variations in pitch, stress, gestures, facial

expressions, spatial manipulation, context, etc. The vast majority of languages do not have a writing system. However, if homonyms obscure the language, if the script is completely language independent (Latin), or if the language and script diverge significantly (Cantonese, Mandarin) the primacy of language does not negate the importance of scripts.

Phonetics is the study of sounds (voice). It is concerned with the actual properties of speech sounds as well as those of non-speech sounds, and their production, audition and perception, as opposed to phonology, which operates at the level of sound systems and abstract sound units (such as phonemes and distinctive features). Phonetics deals with the sounds themselves rather than the contexts in which they are used in languages.

Morphology is a subfield of linguistics that deals with the structure of words. Words are generally accepted as the smallest unit of syntax, but it is clear that in most (if not all) languages, rules allow words to be related to other words. For example, any English speaker knows that the words dog, dogs, and dog catcher are closely related. English speakers will also recognize that

these relationships can be formulated as rules that can be applied to a great many other word pairs.

Descriptive linguistics is characterized by the consistent application of basic concepts and analytical procedures. The basic units of analysis (phonemes, allophones, phonemes, morphemes, variants, direct constituents, etc.) are carefully defined and the analysis procedures or modi operandi are specified. The resulting description is characterized by a systematic representation of the phonemes of the language, variations of those phonemes (allophones), and transformations into morphemes (morphemes). This is followed by a rigorous and systematic treatment of language morphology and syntax.

By focusing on common structural features across languages, descriptive linguistics enables a typology of the world's languages.

## **CONCLUSION**

Linguistics deals with the fundamental question of what language is and how it relates to other human abilities. In answering these questions, linguists look at language as a cultural, social, and psychological phenomenon to try to determine its uniqueness, its universality, how it is acquired, and how it changes. Linguistics therefore belongs to the cognitive sciences. It creates links between the humanities and social sciences, education and audiology and linguistics.