

September 8, 2003

CLASS 1: LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

WHAT IS LANGUAGE?

Language can be a lot of things. Each one of you probably has her/his own thoughts of what it is, or could be, and likewise, of what it isn't. Take a minute, reflect, and think about a good answer. How can we **define language**, and what kind or aspects of language should we be interested in?


WHAT IS LINGUISTICS?

This is maybe an easier question. Roughly, it is the study of language. If we know what language is, we might have a good idea of what *linguistics* could be. But it's not simply "the study of" (well, even that would probably not be that simple) — it's more like the study of the **structure of language**. And structure comes in many ways. Again, think of all types of different ways...



WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS COURSE?

This course is a thorough introduction to the structure of English words, phrases, and sentences. It's going to be *thorough* because we will spend a lot of time together: in the first half of this semester, we will tackle **Pedagogical Grammar (PG)**, where we will take a more descriptive look at English, and in the second half we will deal with **Morphology and Syntax of English (MASOE)**. MASOE will be a slightly different ballgame, one in which we take theoretical approaches seriously and not only describe what we see (and what we don't), but also *explain* it.

FURTHER READINGS:

NB: The smaller-font FURTHER READINGS are mostly for your information only; some of these titles will really be useful to read up on material not covered adequately in our textbooks, for example. All titles that have are annotated by a little  are **really** recommended, and on the afternoon-handouts, these will be listed under READINGS FOR NEXT CLASS. I'll also supply the relevant pages for you to read. With regard to these, you will find that they include various types of exercises in the textbooks as well. It's up to you to ignore them, read them over, or even take a stab at them. Since we will discuss many of these in class, however, the latter option may not always be wrong!

Crystal, D. (1997²) *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Fromkin, V., & R. Rodman (1998³) *An Introduction to Language*. Fort Worth, TX: Harcourt Brace.
NB Fromkin, V., R. Rodman & N. Hyams (2003) *An Introduction to Language*. Stamford, CT: Heinle.
Greenbaum, S. & R. Quirk (1990) *A Student's Grammar of the English Language*. London: Longman.
Huddleston, R. (1988) *English Grammar: An Outline*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Sinclair, J.M., ed. (1987/1990) *Collins COBUILD English Grammar*. London: HarperCollins.

 van Gelderen 2002: Ch. 1 (pp. 1-9) —  Brinton 2000: Ch. 2 (pp. 3-11)

COMPREHENSIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

Some of these books will be **available** at the UCY library, others at Moulton Bookshop. You can always order them through the library, even if not in the current collection, or ask me to do so. If you really want to buy additional books, ask me which ones I'd recommend. Bear in mind that many of the titles are "reference books" and as such very useful, even outside the classroom.

A **final note**: study the format of these bibliographical references carefully, along with all other formal elements in my handouts; these are **essential tools** for academic writing and presentation. [Exception: underlining of authors and (listing) editions, which is purely for your own benefit.]

PG [This is a small selection of useful books on various topics related to pedagogical grammar.]

Azar, B. (1989¹/2000⁵) *Understanding and Using English Grammar*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.
Biber, D., ed. (1999) *Longman grammar of spoken and written English*. London: Longman.
Carter, R., ed. (1997) *Investigating English Discourse*. London: Routledge.
Crystal, D. (1995¹/2003³) *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Gengross, G. & H. Puchta (1992) *Creative Grammar Practice*. London: Longman.
Greenbaum, S. (1991) *An Introduction to English Grammar*. London: Longman.
Hinkel, E. & S. Fotos, eds. (2002) *New Perspectives on Grammar Teaching in Second Language Classrooms*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
Leech, G. & J. Svartvik (1975¹/1987²) *A Communicative Grammar of English*. London: Longman.
Murphy, R. (2002) *English Grammar in Use with Answers*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Odlin, T., ed. (1994) *Perspectives on Pedagogical Grammar*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Quirk, R. & S. Greenbaum (1974/1985) *A University Grammar of English*. London: Longman.
Quirk, R., J. Svartvik, G. Leech & S. Greenbaum (1989) *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. London: Longman.
Sammon, G. (2002) *Exploring English Grammar*. Berlin: Cornelsen.
Swan, M. (1995⁵) *Practical English Usage*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Websites [Feel free to check out more sites yourselves!]

Centre for English Language Teaching (University of Stirling). *Pedagogical Grammar Bibliography*.
<http://www.celt.stir.ac.uk/resources/ML24/pedagogical-grammar-bib.html>
Vavra, E. *The KISS Grammar Site*. <http://nweb.pct.edu/homepage/staff/evavra/KISS.htm>
Vavra, E. *My Bibliographies*. .../evavra/bib/index.htm
Vavra, E. *Essays on Grammar*. .../evavra/ED498/Essay.htm

MASOE [This is a small selection of useful books; more will follow when we start with MASOE.]

Morphology

Anderson, S.R. (1992) *A-Morphous Morphology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Baker, M.C. & J.D. Bobaljik (2002) *Introduction to Morphology*. [PDF-script that I can make available]
Bauer, L. (1983) *English Word Formation*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Matthews, P.H. (1974/1991⁵) *Morphology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Zwicky, A. & A. Spencer, eds. (1998) *Handbook of Morphology*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Syntax

Carnie, A. (2002) *Syntax: A Generative Introduction*. Oxford: Blackwell.
Haegeman, L. (1991¹/1994²) *Introduction to Government and Binding Theory*. Oxford: Blackwell.
Ouhalla, J. (1994/1999³) *Introducing Transformational Grammar*. London: Edward Arnold.
Roberts, I. (1997) *Comparative Syntax*. London: Edward Arnold.
Tallerman, M. (1998) *Understanding Syntax*. London: Edward Arnold.