

January 26, 2004

CLASS 1: LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

WHAT IS LANGUAGE?

Language can be a lot of things. Each one of you probably has his/her 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 an introduction to the structure of **English words, phrases, and sentences** (and as such the **prerequisite for ENG 235** next semester). Along the way, we will also address issues such as the English **tense and aspect system** and other traditional **hard nuts**.

SHORT-TERM LOAN [This is a selection of useful books available on reserve at the library.]

- Adger, D. 2003. *Core Syntax*. Oxford: Oxford University Press [OUP].
Azar, B. 1989. *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. 2003. *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language*. Cambridge: CUP.
Gerngross, G. and H. Puchta. 1992. *Creative Grammar Practice*. London: Longman.
Greenbaum, S. 1993. *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. 1987. *A Communicative Grammar of English*. London: Longman.
Murphy, R. 1994. *English Grammar in Use with Answers*. Cambridge: CUP.
Odlin, T. (ed.). 1994. *Perspectives on Pedagogical Grammar*. Cambridge: CUP.
Quirk, R. & S. Greenbaum. 1985. *A University Grammar of English*. London: Longman.
Quirk, R., J. Svartvik, G. Leech & S. Greenbaum. 1974/1985. *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. London: Longman.
Sammon, G. 2002. *Exploring English Grammar*. Berlin: Cornelsen.
Swan, M. 1995. *Practical English Usage*. Oxford: OUP.

ONLINE MATERIAL [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. *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