

تعاريف من كتاب علم المعاني

علم المعاني والبر اغنائيك

GREAT HEART

Great

Practice

☞ **Mark each of the following statements true (T) or false (F).**

1. Alive means the opposite of dead . T / F
2. Buy has an opposite meaning from sell. T / F
3. Caesar is and is not a meaningful English sentence. T / F
4. Caesar is a prime number is nonsensical. T / F
5. Both of John's parents are married to aunts of mine is in a sense contradictory, describing an impossible situation. T / F
6. If the sentence John killed Bill is true of any situation, then so is the sentence Bill is alive. T / F
7. If someone says, 'Can you pass the salt?', he is normally not asking about his hearer's ability to pass the salt, but requesting the hearer to pass the salt. T / F
8. If someone says, 'I tried to buy some rice', his hearer would normally infer that he had actually failed to buy rice. T / F
9. Caesar is a man is nonsensical. T / F

Practice

☞ **Say whether the pairs of words in the curly brackets in the sentences below have approximately the same meaning (S) or a different meaning (D).**

1. I (**almost** / **nearly**) fell over S / D
2. It is (**Likely/probable**) that Raymond will be here tomorrow S / D
3. Your gatepost doesn't seem to be quite (**vertical** / **upright**) S / D
4. He painted the fi replace (**aquamarine** / **vermilion**) S / D
5. I'll see you on (**Wednesday** / **Thursday**) S / D

Practice

☞ **Intuitively, do the following pairs mean the same or nearly the same thing?**

- (1) Rupert took off his jacket
Rupert took his jacket off Yes / No
- (2) Harriet wrote the answer down
Harriet wrote down the answer Yes / No
- (3) Bachelors prefer redheads
Girls with red hair are preferred by unmarried men Yes / No

Answer

(1) Yes (2) Yes (3) Yes (You may not have agreed, but it's not too important, as we are dealing with a quite rough-and-ready concept at this stage.)

Practice

☞ Does the word bank have the same meaning in the following sentence pairs?

1. I have an account at the Bank of Scotland
- We steered the raft to the other bank of the river Yes / No
2. The DC-10 banked sharply to avoid a crash
- I banked the furnace up with coke last night Yes / No

Practice

☞ What is intended by the word mean, meaning, etc. in the following examples, reference (R) or sense (S)?

1. When Helen mentioned 'the fruit cake', she meant that rock-hard object in the middle of the table.
R/S
2. When Albert talks about 'his former friend' he means me R / S
3. Daddy, what does unique mean? R / S
4. Purchase has the same meaning as buy R / S
5. Look up the meaning of apoplexy in your dictionary R / S
6. If you look out of the window now, you'll see who I mean R / S

Practice

Could the following possibly be used as referring expressions? Circle the answer of your choice.

1. John Yes / No
2. My uncle Yes / No
3. And Yes / No
4. the girl sitting on the wall by the bus stop Yes / No
5. a man Yes / No
6. my parents Yes / No
7. send Yes / No
8. under Yes / No

(5) Yes, as in 'A man was in here looking for you'. (6) Yes (My parents refers to a pair of things)

Practice

1. When a speaker says, 'A man was in here looking for you last night' is a **man** being used to refer to a particular man? Yes / No
2. So, in the above example, is a **man** a referring expression? Yes / No
3. When a speaker says, 'The first sign of the monsoon is a cloud on the horizon no bigger than a man's hand', is a **man** being used to refer to a particular man? Yes / No
4. Is a **man** in this example a referring expression? Yes / No
5. Is **forty buses**, used in 'Forty buses have been withdrawn from service by the Liverpool Corporation', a referring expression? Yes / No
6. Is **forty buses**, used in 'This engine has the power of forty buses', a referring expression? Yes / No

Practice

☞ **Are the following referring expressions? (Imagine normal circumstances for the utterance.)**

1. **a Norwegian**, used in 'Nancy married a Norwegian' Yes / No
2. **a Norwegian**, used in 'Nancy wants to marry a Norwegian' Yes / No
3. **a car**, used in 'John is looking for a car' Yes / No
4. **a man with a limp**, used in 'Dick believes that a man with a limp killed Bo Peep' Yes / No
5. **a man with a limp**, used in 'A man with a limp killed Bo Peep' Yes / No
6. **a swan**, used in 'Every evening at sunset a swan flew over the house' Yes / No

answer

(1) Yes (2) Yes and No: the sentence is ambiguous. It depends on whether the speaker has in mind a particular person whom Nancy wants to marry.(3) Yes and No: the sentence is ambiguous. It depends on whether the speaker has a particular car in mind.(4) Yes and No (5) Yes, it can be.(6)Yes and No

Practice

☞ **Are the following referring expressions? (Imagine normal circumstances for the utterances.)**

1. John in '**John** is my best friend' Yes / No
2. he in '**He**'s a very polite man', said by a husband to his wife in a conversation about their bank manager Yes / No
3. it in '**It**'s sinking!' used in a conversation about a battle ship which has just been attacked Yes / No
4. the man who shot Abraham Lincoln in 'The man who shot Abraham Lincoln was an unemployed actor' Yes / No

Practice

☞ **In the following sentences, delete the referring expressions**

1. ~~My dog~~ bit the ~~postman~~
2. Mrs Wraith is writing the ~~Mayor's~~ speech
3. ~~Cairo~~ is in Africa
4. ~~Edinburgh~~ is between ~~Aberdeen~~ and ~~York~~
5. ~~This place~~ stinks
6. ~~John's car~~ is red
7. ~~Einstein~~ was a genius

Practice

☞ **Listed below are the remainders from the above examples. In each case, write down the single word (or part of a word) which carries the most specific information.**

1. is writing
2. is in
3. is between, and
4. stinks
5. is red
6. was a genius

answer

(1) write (2) in (3) between (4) stink (5) red (6) genius

Practice

1. Which of the following most appropriately describes reference? Circle your preference.
 - a. Reference is a relationship between sentences and the world.
 - b. Reference is a relationship between certain uttered expressions and things in the world. ✓
 - c. Reference is a relationship between certain uttered expressions and certain things outside the context of the utterance.

2. Which of the following is a correct statement about sense?
 - a. All words in a language may be used to refer, but only some words have sense.
 - b. If two expressions have the same reference, they always have the same sense.
 - c. The sense of an expression is its relationship to semantically equivalent or semantically related expressions in the same language. ✓

3. How do hearers identify the referent of a referring expression (other than a proper name) –
 - a. by seeking in the context of the utterance some object to which the predicates in the referring expression apply? ✓
 - b. by sharing with the speaker a conventional system according to which each possible referring expression has a single agreed referent?
 - c. by telepathy – reading the speaker's mind?

Practice

☞ The following sentences are all ambiguous. For each one give two paraphrases which are not paraphrases of each other. Be very careful to make sure that your answers are exact paraphrases of the original sentence, as far as this is possible.

1. The chicken is ready to eat
.....
2. Visiting relatives can be boring
.....
3. They passed the port at midnight
.....
4. The thing that bothered Bill was crouching under the table
.....
5. The captain corrected the list
.....

Answer

1. The chicken is ready to be eaten **vs** The chicken is ready to eat some food
2. It can be boring to visit relatives **vs** Relatives who are visiting can be boring
3. They passed the seaport at midnight **vs** They passed the port wine at midnight
4. It was crouching under the table that bothered Bill **vs** The creature that bothered Bill was crouching under the table
5. The captain corrected the inventory **vs** The captain corrected the tilt

Practice

☞ **Identify the word that does not belong to the group and suggest a suitable semantic field for the group.**

1. sing, talk, dance, speak, shout, whisper, mutter
2. ooze, trickle, drip, seep, slide, gush, squirt
3. rub, scratch, graze, wipe, scrape, brush , push
4. at, of, in, on, under, below, near
5. square, circular, triangular, spherical, hexagonal, rectangular, polygonal

Practice

☞ **whether the crucial assumption leading the hearer to this implicature involves the maxim of**

(R) relevance, (I) informativeness, or (C) clarity (or brevity). Circle your answer.

- (1) A: (by an obviously immobilized car) 'My car's broken down'
B: 'There is a garage round the corner'

Implicature : The garage is open and has a mechanic who might repair the fault.

R / I / C

- (2) A: 'What subjects is Jack taking?'
B: 'He's not taking Linguistics'

Implicature : B does not know exactly which subjects Jack is taking.

R / I / C

- (3) A: 'Have you brushed your teeth and tidied your room?'
B: 'I've brushed my teeth'

Implicature : B has not tidied his room.

R / I / C

- (4) A: 'Who was that man you were talking to?'
B: 'That was my mother's husband'

Implicature : B's mother's husband is not B's father.

R / I / C

- (5) A: 'Is Betsy in?'
B: 'Her light is on'

Implicature : Betsy's light being on is usually a sign of whether she is in or not.

R / I / C

Practice

(1) Which of the following most appropriately describes reference? Circle your preference.

- a. Reference is a relationship between sentences and the world.
- b. Reference is a relationship between certain uttered expressions and things in the world. ✓
- c. Reference is a relationship between certain uttered expressions and certain things outside the context of the utterance.

(2) Which of the following is a correct statement about sense?

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- c. The sense of an expression is its relationship to semantically equivalent or semantically related expressions in the same language. ✓

(3) How do hearers identify the referent of a referring expression (other than a proper name) –

- a. by seeking in the context of the utterance some object to which the predicates in the referring expression apply? ✓
- b. by sharing with the speaker a conventional system according to which each possible referring expression has a single agreed referent?
- c. by telepathy – reading the speaker’s mind?

(4) Which of the following words are predicates? Circle your choices. Henry ,

Square, expensive , and , under, not, love

(5) Which of the following is correct?

- a. The universe of discourse is a part of the context of an utterance.
- b. The context of an utterance is a part of the universe of discourse. ✓
- c. The universe of discourse is the whole real world.

Practice

In the following sentences, do the capitalized pairs of words have the same(or very nearly the same) sense in the ways they are used here?

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| (1) The thief tried to CONCEAL/HIDE the evidence | <u>Yes</u> / <u>No</u> |
| (2) I'm going to PURCHASE/BUY a new coat | <u>Yes</u> / <u>No</u> |
| (3) These tomatoes are LARGE/RIPE | <u>Yes</u> / <u>No</u> |
| (4) This is a very LOOSE/SHORT definition | <u>Yes</u> / <u>No</u> |
| (5) You have my PROFOUND/DEEP sympathy | <u>Yes</u> / <u>No</u> |
| (6) It is a very WIDE/BROAD street | <u>Yes</u> / <u>No</u> |

Practice

☞ **Are the following pairs of predicates binary antonyms?**

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| (1) chalk – cheese | Yes / <u>No</u> |
| (2) same – different | <u>Yes</u> / No |
| (3) copper – tin | Yes / <u>No</u> |
| (4) dead – alive | <u>Yes</u> / No |
| (5) married – unmarried | <u>Yes</u> / No |
| (6) love – hate | Yes / <u>No</u> |

Lecture 10

Practice

- (1) If I say to you, ‘I warn you not to come any closer’, do I, by so saying, actually perform the act of **warning** you not to come any closer? Yes / No
- (2) Does the utterance ‘I warn you not to come any closer’ describe an act of **warning** by the speaker? Yes / No
- (3) Is the utterance ‘I warn you not to come any closer’ a **performative utterance**? Yes / No
- (4) If Sam says to Rachel, ‘I admit that I took 50p from the coffee money’, does he, by so saying, actually perform the act of **admitting** that he took the money? Yes / No
- (5) And does Sam’s utterance describe an act of **admission**? Yes / No
- (6) Is ‘I admit that I took 50p from the coffee money’ **performative**? Yes / No
- (7) If someone says, ‘I’m trying to get this box open with a screwdriver’, does that utterance itself constitute an act of trying to open a box with a screwdriver? Yes / No
- (8) (8)Is ‘I’m trying to get this box open with a screwdriver’ **performative**? Yes / No

Answer

- (1) Yes (2) Yes (3) Yes (4) Yes (5) Yes (6) Yes (7) No, although it does describe such an act. (8) No

Practice

☞ **Are the following utterances performative (P) or constative (C)?**

- | | |
|--|-------|
| (1) ‘I name this ship Hibernia’ | P / C |
| (2) ‘I believe in the dictatorship of the Proletariat’ | P / C |
| (3) ‘I admit I was hasty’ | P / C |
| (4) ‘I think I was wrong’ | P / C |
| (5) ‘I hereby inform you that you are sacked’ | P / C |
| (6) ‘I give you supper every night’ | P / C |

Answer

- (1) P (act of naming) (2) C (only describes belief) (3) P (act of admission) (4) C (only describes mental state) (5) P (act of informing) (6) C (only describes a state of affairs)

Practice

☞ **Are the following performative verbs, or not?**

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| (1) apologize | <u>Yes</u> / No |
| (2) authorize | <u>Yes</u> / No |
| (3) argue | Yes / <u>No</u> |
| (4) condemn | <u>Yes</u> / No |
| (5) squeal | Yes / <u>No</u> |

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Practice

☞ **Some of the following utterances are exceptions to the statement that all performative utterances have 1st person singular subjects. Which utterances are the exceptions? (Indicate your answer by underlining the exceptions.)**

- (1) 'You are hereby forbidden to leave this room'
- (2) 'All passengers on flight number forty-seven are requested to proceed to gate ten'
- (3) 'I suggest that you see a psychiatrist as soon as possible'
- (4) 'This ship is called Titanic'
- (5) 'We thank you for the compliment you have paid us'

Answer

- (1) exception, because performative, but with a 2nd person subject
- (2) exception, because performative but with 3rd person plural subject
- (3) not an exception
- (4) not an exception, because not performative
- (5) exception, because performative but with 1st person plural subject

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SPEECH ACTS

Practice

(1) Which of the following acts can be performed through the use of language? Underline your choices.

kicking, asserting, warning, promising, running, referring, insulting

2) Which of the following statements is correct? Circle your choice.

- (a) There are no acts which can be performed either linguistically (e.g. with an utterance) or non-linguistically (e.g. with a gesture).
- (b) There are no acts which cannot be performed linguistically.
- (c) Some acts can be performed either linguistically or non-linguistically.

(3) Can the same sentence be uttered on different occasions to perform different acts? Yes / No

(4) Is the sentence I hereby command you to teach first-year Semantics performative (P), constative (C), or neither (N)? P / C / N

Answer

- (1) asserting, warning, promising, referring, insulting
- (2) (c)
- (3) Yes
- (4) P

Practice

- (1) Could the utterance 'Don't come a step nearer!' be an act of **warning**? Yes / No
(2) Could the utterance 'Get lost' be an act of **dismissing**? Yes / No
(3) Could the utterance 'Why don't you try looking in Woolworths?' be an act of making a **suggestion**? Yes / No
(4) Could the utterance 'Do you think I'm an idiot?' be an act of rejecting a **suggestion**? Yes / No
(5) Just as the linguistic act of asserting can be seen as typifying utterances of declarative sentences, what linguistic act typifies interrogative utterances, i.e. what act is typically performed by uttering an interrogative sentence?.....
(6) And, similarly, what act is most typically carried out by an imperative utterance?.....

Answer

- (1) Yes (2) Yes (3) Yes (4) Yes (5) the act of asking a question (6) the act of ordering someone to do something

Practice

☞ **In the following situation, does the act carried out by the utterance seem to be primarily one of asserting, asking, or ordering? In each case, note the sentence type, whether declarative, interrogative, or imperative. We have done the first one for you.**

- (1) Lady at ticket office in railway station: 'I'd like a day return to Morecambe, please'

Sentence type : declarative **Act** : requesting or ordering

- (2) Speaker at a meeting on a hot political issue: 'Is it right to condone thuggery?'

Sentence type : **Act** :

- (3) The Duke of Omnium, to his butler, who sees to his every need: 'It's cold in here, Hives'

Sentence type : **Act**

- (4) To companion on a country walk, while climbing a fence: 'My skirt is caught on the barbed wire'

Sentence type : **Act**

- (5) Biology teacher: 'Note that the female cell has two X-shaped chromosomes'

Sentence type : **Act**

- (6) Mother to child who is eating untidily: 'Look at the mess you've made under your chair'

Sentence type : **Act**

Answer

- (2) interrogative; asserting (= 'It is not right')
(3) declarative; ordering (= 'close the window')
(4) declarative; requesting or ordering (= 'Please help me')
(5) imperative; asserting (= 'The female cell has two X-shaped chromosomes')
(6) imperative; asserting (= 'You've made a mess')

Practice

☞ **say what illocutionary acts are performed by the following utterances, assuming normal circumstances.**

- (1) ‘Would you like a cup of coffee?’
- (2) ‘After you’(said to someone wishing to go through the same door as the speaker).....
- (3) ‘I’m awfully sorry I wasn’t at the meeting this morning’
- (4) ‘You can play outside for half an hour’
- (5) ‘Good evening’
- (6) ‘Good night’

Answer

(1) offering (2) giving way (3) apologizing (4) giving permission(5) greeting (and sometimes, but not often, leave taking) (6) leave taking (not greeting)

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Practice

☞ **Using the criteria just outlined, classify the following acts as either illocutionary (I) or perlocutionary (P).**

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| (1) distracting someone | I / P |
| (2) claiming | I / P |
| (3) denying something | I / P |
| (4) hurting someone | I / P |
| (5) predicting something | I / P |
| (6) mocking someone | I / P |

Answer

(1) P (2) I (3) I (4) P (5) I (6) I

Answer the following questions:

(1) **Name three performative verbs**.....

(2) Complete the following definition: A performative utterance is one thatsome act and.....that act.

(3) **Note down the sentence type and the main illocutionary act performed in the following utterances.**

(a) **Man in pet shop: ‘Is that parrot expensive?’**

Sentence type :..... **Act**

(b) **Teacher to class: ‘I don’t want to hear noise at the back of the class’**

Sentence type:..... **Act**

(c) **Man helping a blind man across a road: ‘Watch the step’**

Sentence type

Act

(d) Man in argument: 'Do you take me for a fool?'

Sentence type :.....

Act.....

Answer

(1) promise, beg, admit ,etc. (2) A performative utterance is one that describes some act and simultaneously performs that act.(3) (a) interrogative; enquiry (b) declarative; command (c) imperative; warning (d) interrogative; assertion

Practice

Given below are illocutionary acts, and for each act there are four suggested felicity conditions. In each case only two of the felicity conditions are actually correct. Indicate the correct felicity conditions by circling your choices.

1. promising:

- a. The speaker must intend to carry out the thing promised. ✓
- b. The speaker must be inferior in status to the hearer.
- c. The thing promised must be something that the hearer wants to happen. ✓
- d. The thing promised must be morally wrong.

2. apologizing:

- a. The speaker must be responsible for the thing apologized for. ✓
- b. The thing apologized for must be (or must have been) unavoidable.
- c. The thing apologized for must be morally wrong.
- d. The hearer must not want the thing apologized for to happen (or to have happened). ✓

3. greeting:

- a. The speaker and the hearer must be of different sex.
- b. The speaker and the hearer must not be in the middle of a conversation. ✓
- c. The speaker must believe the hearer to have recently suffered a loss.
- d. The speaker feels some respect and/or sense of community (however slight) with the hearer. ✓

4. naming:

- a. The thing or person named must not already have a recognized name known to the speaker. ✓
- b. The speaker must be recognized by his community as having authority to name. ✓
- c. The thing or person named must belong to the speaker.
- d. The thing or person named must be held in considerable respect by the community.

5. protesting:

- a. The speaker and the hearer must have recently been in conflict with each other.
- b. The speaker must disapprove of the state of affairs protested at. ✓
- c. The state of affairs protested at must be disapproved of by the community generally.
- d. The hearer must be held to be responsible (by the speaker) for the state of affairs protested at. ✓

Answer

(1) (a),(c) - (2) (a),(d) - (3) (b),(d) - (4) (a),(b) - (5) (b),(d)

Practice

- ◆ Do each of the following situations indicate a clear understanding on the part of both participants of what illocutionary acts are involved?

1.

- Factory inspector: 'I'll come back and see this machine tomorrow'
- Foreman: 'Is that a threat or a promise?'

Yes / No

2.

- Amateur astrologer: 'I'm trying to cast your horoscope. Let's see, now – you were born under Aquarius'
- Sceptic: 'Are you asking me or telling me?'

Yes / No

3.

- A: 'You deserve a trip to Alaska for what you've done'
- B: 'You mean as a punishment, or as a reward?'

Yes / No

Answer

- (1) No (It is not clear to the hearer whether the illocution of the first utterance is a threat or a promise.)
(2) No (similarly)
(3) No (The first utterance could have the illocution of praising or deprecating.)

Lecture 12

Practice

- ◆ The utterances in the following examples actually carry out several illocutionary acts simultaneously. Give two illocutions in each case.

1. **'Can I remind everybody that we meet here again at 6 pm?'** Asking, reminding, and informing
2. **'Can you pass the salt?'** asking, requesting.....
3. To a car salesman who has just mentioned a price of £950 for a car:
'O.K. I'll take it at that price' accepting, agreeing.....
4. Young man in crowd addressed by the Prime Minister, shouting loudly:
'What are you going to do about the three million unemployed?' protesting, asking.....
5. Shopgirl, handing over a packet of razor blades and two bars of soap:
'That will be 88p, please' informing, requesting.....
6. Museum attendant, to visitor:
'I'm afraid we're closing now, Sir' apologizing, informing, requesting.....

Practice

Example : ‘Can you pass the salt?’

The direct illocution : is an enquiry about the hearer’s ability to pass the salt.

The indirect illocution : is a request that the hearer pass the salt.

Practice

◆ Give the direct and indirect illocutions of the following utterances.

1. ‘*Why don’t we go to Portugal this summer?*’

➤ **Direct illocution:** Asking why speaker and hearer do not (or will not) go to Portugal

➤ **Indirect illocution:** Suggesting that the speaker and the hearer go to Portugal

2. ‘*Let me say immediately that I endorse the chairman’s ruling*’

➤ **Direct illocution:** Ordering hearer to permit speaker to say

➤ **Indirect illocution:** Endorsing chairman’s ruling

3. ‘*I believe you may have been looking for me*’

➤ **Direct illocution:** Asserting that speaker believe hearer may have been looking for speaker

➤ **Indirect illocution:** Asking whether hearer has been looking for speaker

4. ‘*I must ask you to leave*’

➤ **Direct illocution:** Asserting that speaker is obliged to ask hearer to leave

➤ **Indirect illocution:** Asking hearer to leave

5. ‘*Don’t you think you ought to phone your mother?*’

➤ **Direct illocution:** Asking whether hearer thinks he ought to phone his mother

➤ **Indirect illocution:** Suggesting that hearer should phone his mother

Practice

Suggest pedantic, unhelpful, but literally correct, replies to the utterances in(2),(3),and (5) above, alongside more natural, helpful replies.

2) 'Let me say immediately that I endorse the chairman's ruling'

- **Unhelpful:** 'No. You may not say that'
- **Helpful:** 'Thank you for your endorsement'

3) 'I believe you may have been looking for me'

- **Unhelpful:** 'Do you?'
- **Helpful:** 'Yes. I have been'

5) 'Don't you think you ought to phone your mother?'

- **Unhelpful:** 'Yes. I think I ought to'
- **Helpful:** 'Yes. I'll do it straight away'

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Practice

1. Given below are four suggested felicity conditions for the act of enquiring (or asking a question).Only two of them are actually correct. Which two? Circle your choice.

- The hearer must believe that the speaker knows the answer to the question.
- The hearer must not know the answer to the question.
- The speaker must believe that the hearer knows the answer to the question. ✓
- The speaker must not know the answer to the question. ✓

2. In normal everyday circumstances, is it reasonable to assume that almost anyone one speaks to will be physically capable of such a trivial act as picking up a salt-shaker and passing it?

Yes / No

3. Given your answers to questions (1) and (2), if at a normal everyday lunch table I say to you, 'Can you pass the salt?' would it be reasonable to judge my utterance infelicitous as an act of enquiring?

Yes / No

4. Is it one of the felicity conditions of the act of requesting that the speaker must believe that the hearer is physically able to do the thing that he (the hearer) is requested to do?

Yes / No

5. The direct way of requesting the salt is to say 'Please pass the salt'. 'Can you pass the salt?' is an indirect way of requesting it. Give three other utterances whose indirect illocution is a request for the salt:.....

- 'Would you mind passing the salt', 'I'd be grateful if you would pass the salt', 'Can I trouble you for the salt?'

Practice

* Say whether the following acts are directive(D), commissive (C), or neither (N).

1. volunteering	⇒	D / <u>C</u> / N	commissive
2. advising	⇒	<u>D</u> / C / N	directive
3. forbidding	⇒	<u>D</u> / C / N	directive
4. accepting	⇒	D / <u>C</u> / N	commissive
5. requesting	⇒	<u>D</u> / C / N	directive
6. congratulating	⇒	D / C / <u>N</u>	neither
7. insulting	⇒	D / C / <u>N</u>	neither
8. undertaking	⇒	D / <u>C</u> / N	commissive

Practice

1. Think of five or more examples of directive illocutionary acts.

admonishing	appealing	commanding	counselling	demanding
directing	enjoining	exhorting	imploring	insisting
instructing	inviting	pleading	urging	
bidding (in an old-fashioned sense of bid)				

2. Think of three or more examples of commissive illocutionary acts.

binding oneself	committing oneself	giving one's word
offering	pledging	vowing

Practice

- Could the utterance 'You can shut up' actually be a command to the hearer to shut up?
Yes / No
- Could the utterance 'You can make me a cup of coffee while we're waiting for John' be a request?
Yes / No
- Could the utterance 'You can try wrapping it in greaseproof paper' be a suggestion?
Yes / No
- Could 'Can you shut up?' be a command?
Yes / No
- Could 'Can you make me a cup of coffee while we're waiting for John?' be a request?
Yes / No
- Could 'Can you try wrapping it in greaseproof paper?' be a suggestion?
Yes / No
- Do these examples tend to show that asserting or questioning the hearer's ability to carry out an action are ways of achieving an (indirect) directive?
Yes / No

Practice

[If I say to you: 'Will you turn off the kitchen light?']

1. What is the direct illocution of the utterance (assertion, question or command)?
 - Question
2. What is the indirect illocution of the utterance (e.g. apology, promise,...)? (Assume normal circumstances.)
 - Request
3. Does the utterance use any referring expressions? Yes / No
4. If there are any referring expressions used, list them.
 - you and the kitchen light
5. In this utterance, is any predicate used to express a connection between the things or persons referred to? Yes / No
6. What is this predicate?
 - The verb turn off
7. In making this utterance, would I normally be carrying out one or more acts of reference? Yes / No
 - Yes, two separate acts of referring
8. In making this utterance, would I be carrying out an act of predicating some connection between the objects or persons referred to? Yes / No
 - Yes, predicating a relation of turning off between you and the kitchen light
9. In this instance, does the predication apply to a past, present, or future connection between the objects or persons referred to? Past / Present / Future
 - a future connection

>>>>>

Practice

☞ For each of the following utterances, (a) name the most likely illocutionary act being carried out, (b) say whether the speaker is explicitly referred to, and (c) say whether the hearer is explicitly referred to.

1. 'I am most grateful to you'

- (a) thanking (b) Yes / No (c) Yes / No

2. 'Thank you very much'

- (a) thanking (b) Yes / No (c) Yes / No

3. 'Thanks a lot'

- (a) thanking (b) Yes / No (c) Yes / No

4. 'Go away'

- (a) ordering (or commanding) (b) Yes / No (c) Yes / No

5. 'Please will you pass the sugar'

- (a) Requesting (b) Yes / No (c) Yes / No

6. 'I hereby undertake to pay all my debts'

- (a) Promising (b) Yes / No (c) Yes / No

Practice

☞ Given below are some further utterances which could also be regarded as using primary illocution indicators. For each one, state the illocutionary act(s) normally indicated by it.

1. 'Bravo!': congratulating (or expressing admiration)
2. 'Please': requesting (or entreating)
3. 'Hi': greeting
4. 'Pardon?': requesting repetition of the hearer's previous utterance
5. 'Hooray': expressing (exuberant) approval, congratulating
6. 'Eh?': querying (or asking or enquiring)

Lecture 13

Practice

☞ *In normal conversation, does a helpful speaker try to:*

1. Give relatively unspecific, even vacuous, answers to questions?
➤ Yes / No
2. Give information that the hearer already knows?
➤ Yes / No
3. Give information that is not relevant to the topic of conversation?
➤ Yes / No
4. Give information in a way that is easy to understand?
➤ Yes / No
5. Avoid ambiguity, or potentially misleading statements?
➤ Yes / No

Practice

☞ *In the following dialogues, say whether the second speaker is making an utterance that is fully co-operative (C) or one that is misleading (M) or unhelpful in some way (U).*

1. **Policeman at the front door:** 'Is your father or your mother at home?'

Small boy (who knows that his father is at home):
'Either my mother's gone out shopping or she hasn't'

➤ C / M / U

2. **Traffic warden to motorist parked on double yellow line:**

'Is this your car, sir?'
Motorist (looking at the black clouds): 'I think it's going to rain'

➤ C / M / U

3. **Customer in stationery shop:** 'Could you tell me where I could buy some felt-tip pens?'

Shop girl (who knows she has felt-tip pens in stock):
'Yes, you could get some at Woolworths, down the road'

➤ C / M / U ➔ M (therefore unhelpful)

4. **Mother:** 'Now tell me the truth. Who put the ferret in the bathtub?'
Son (who knows who did it): 'Someone put it there'

➤ C / M / U

Practice

Now in each of the above situations, say whether the second speaker, although clearly being unhelpful, is telling the truth or not (as far as you can tell).

(1) Yes / No

(2) Yes / No

(3) Yes / No

(4) Yes / No

Practice

هذا التمرين يوجد مثله في المحاضرة ١٤ ولكن الدكتور غير تقريبا في الامثلة وبهذا تتغير الاجابة

☞ **say whether the utterance of the second speaker in each case is irrelevant (I), less informative than it might have been (LI) or unclear, i.e. difficult for the hearer to understand (U).**

1. Policeman at the front door: 'Is your father or your mother at home?'

Small boy (who knows that his father is at home):
'Either my mother's gone out shopping or she hasn't'

➤ U / LI / I

2. Traffic warden to motorist parked on double yellow line:

'Is this your car, sir?'
Motorist (looking at the black clouds): 'I think it's going to rain'

➤ U / LI / I

3. Customer in stationery shop: 'Could you tell me where I could buy some felt-tip pens?'

Shop girl (who knows she has felt-tip pens in stock):
'Yes, you could get some at Woolworths, down the road'

➤ U / LI / I

4. Mother: 'Now tell me the truth. Who put the ferret in the bathtub?'

Son (who knows who did it): 'Someone put it there'

➤ U / LI / I

Practice

☞ **Give an implicature of B's utterance in each of the situations below.**

1. A: 'Do you love me?'
B: 'I'm quite fond of you'

Implicature : B does not love A.

2. A: 'Was there a fiddler at the bar last night?'
B: 'There was a man scraping a bow across a violin'

Implicature : The fiddler at the bar was not very good.

3. A: 'Do you like my new carpet?'
B: 'The wallpaper's not bad'

Implicature : B does not like A's new carpet.

Practice

☞ **Below are some conversations between two people, A and B. After each conversation an implicature from B's utterance is given. In each case, say whether the crucial assumption leading the hearer to this implicature involves the maxim of (R) relevance, (I) informativeness, or (C) clarity (or brevity). Circle your answer.**

1. A: (by an obviously immobilized car) 'My car's broken down'
B: 'There is a garage round the corner'

Implicature : The garage is open and has a mechanic who might repair the fault.

- i. Relevance ✓
- ii. Informativeness
- iii. Clarity

2. A: 'What subjects is Jack taking?'
B: 'He's not taking Linguistics'

Implicature : B does not know exactly which subjects Jack is taking.

- i. Relevance
- ii. Informativeness ✓
- iii. Clarity

3. A: 'Have you brushed your teeth and tidied your room?'
B: 'I've brushed my teeth'

Implicature : B has not tidied his room.

- i. Relevance
- ii. Informativeness ✓ (or perhaps brevity, since B could have simply said 'Yes' if he had tidied his room)
- iii. Clarity

4. A: 'Who was that man you were talking to?'
B: 'That was my mother's husband'

Implicature : B's mother's husband is not B's father.

- i. Relevance
- ii. Informativeness
- iii. Clarity ✓

5. A: 'Is Betsy in?'
B: 'Her light is on'

Implicature : Betsy's light being on is usually a sign of whether she is in or not.

- i. Relevance ✓
- ii. Informativeness
- iii. Clarity