

Semantics and Pragmatics

Instructor: Dr. Abdulrahman A. Alsayed

Lecture 14 -Pragmatics: Practical Applications

Exercise 1

- Below are some conversations between two people, A and B.
- فيما يلي بعض المحادثات بين شخصين، A , B
- After each conversation, an implicature from B's utterance is given.
- بعد كل محادثة، يتم إعطاء implicature من الكلام لـ B.
- In each conversation, say whether the assumptions that lead the hearer to this implicature is a result of relevance, informativeness, or clarity.
- في كل محادثة، يقول ما إذا كانت الافتراضات التي تؤدي السامع لهذا implicature هو نتيجة لأهميتها، informativeness، أو وضوح.

1. A: (standing by an obviously immobilized car) 'My car has broken down'

B: 'There is a garage round the corner'

Implicature: The garage is open and has a mechanic who might repair the car. 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: 'Who was that man you were talking to?'

B: 'That was my mother's husband'

Implicature: Speaker B's mother's husband is not B's father. R / I / C

4. 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

Exercise 1: Answers

1. relevance
2. informativeness
4. clarity
5. relevance

Exercise 2

- Say whether the utterance of the second speaker in each of the following situations is violating the maxim of relation (irrelevant), violating the maxim of quantity (uninformative), violating the maxim of manner (unclear), or violating the maxim of quality (untruthful).
- القول ما اذا كان الكلام من المتكلم الثاني بكل من الحالات التالية ينتهك مقولة العلاقة (غير ذي صلة)، وانتهاك مقوله من الكمية (مبهمة)، منتهك بذلك القول المأثور لنحو (غير واضح)، أو انتهاك مقوله من النوعية (الغير صادقة).

(1) Policeman at the front door: 'Is your father at home?'

Small boy (who knows that his father is at home):

'Either my mother's gone out shopping or she hasn't.'

(I, UT, UC, UI)

(2) Traffic policeman talking to a man parked in a no-parking zone: 'Is this

your car, sir?’

Man (who owns the car): ‘No, this car is not mine.’

(3) Customer in a stationery shop: ‘Are pens in the first floor or the second floor of the store?’

Shop girl (who knows pens are on the first floor):

‘You can find them on the floor that has notebooks.’

(I, UT, UC, UI)

(4) Mother: ‘Now tell me the truth. Who put the cat in the bathtub?’ Son (who knows who did it): ‘Someone put it there.’

Exercise 2: Answers

1. irrelevant
2. untruthful
3. unclear
4. uninformative

Sample Questions- Questions on Definitions

1. “A sense relation where the meaning of a word is the opposite of another word.”

● يتعلق المعنى حيث معنى الكلمة هو عكس لكلمة أخرى "

a. synonymy

c. antonymy

b. polysemy

d. hyponymy

2. “Hyponymy” is a sense relation where:

● Hyponymy "هي علاقة الشعور حيث:

a. the meaning of a word is the opposite of another word.

● معنى كلمة هو عكس كلمة أخرى.

b. the meaning of a word is the same as another word

● معنى كلمة هو نفس كلمة أخرى

c. the meaning of a word is included in another word

● يتم تضمين معنى كلمة في كلمة أخرى

d. the meaning of a word is not related to another word

● معنى كلمة لا علاقة لكلمة أخرى

Questions on Examples

1. Which of the following pairs are binary antonyms?

• أي من الأزواج التالية هي متضادات ثنائية؟

- a. meat – cheese c. married – unmarried
b. silver – gold d. love – hate

2. Classify the utterance: 'I order you to go.'

• يصنف الكلام I order you to go

- a. constative
b. explicit performative
c. implicit performative
d. neither constative nor performative

Questions on Discussion

• Which of the following is true about hyponymy?

• أي مما يلي صحيح حول hyponymy

a. The upper term is called the hyponym.

• يسمى المصطلح العلوي hyponym.

b. The lower term is called the superordinate.

• يسمى المصطلح السفلي superordinate.

c. A hyponym can never be a superordinate of another term.

• hyponym لا يمكن أبدا أن يكون superordinate بتعبير آخر.

d. There is not always a superordinate term for hyponyms in a language.

• لا يوجد دائما مصطلح superordinate ل hyponyms في اللغة.