

Applied Linguistics

Discourse

- Language is a coded system. A closed system that works for different purposes.
- Discourse is not just language, through discourse we collaborate our relations, we give sense to reality.
- Language is arts of humanity meanwhile discourse is
- Discourse has to do with social sciences. Discourse is rather process than product.
- Language text and discourse do not necessarily mean the same thing.
- Discourse is not finite, we exist in society through discourse and by discourse.
- We as teachers involved in social sciences.

Definitions of Discourse

Meaning in interaction ... the different contributions of both **speaker** and **hearer** as well as that of **utterance** and context to the making of meaning.

A **dynamic process** in which language is used as an instrument of communication in a context by a **speaker/writer** to express meanings and **achieve intentions**.

Discourse arises not as a collection of de-contextualized units of language structure, but as a collection inherently **contextualized** units of language use.

The subtle ways in which language orders our perceptions and makes things happen and thus ... **how language can be used to construct and create social interaction** and diverse social worlds ... the way talk is meshed together ... language in its social and cognitive process.

Language above the clause ... in larger linguistic units, such as conversational exchanges or written texts ... **language in use** in social contexts.

A way of perceiving, talking about and **acting upon the world**, particularly in different social contexts or as part of different social practices.

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Notes about Discourse

- Discourse involves both spoken and written language.
- All discourse is purposeful to achieve some intentions. Discourse involves language choice.
- The way we perceive the world, the way we construct and create social interaction.
- Use = discourse, language in concepts. / usage = language based approaches, it is about system.
- Critical discourse analysis, you enact things. You make things change through discourse.

- **Analysis of discourse is empirical.**
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- **Discourse is not just a sequence of linguistic units.**
 - Resources for coherence jointly contribute to the understanding of what is said, meant and done through everyday talk.
 - Linguistic forms and meanings work together with social and cultural meanings and interpretive frameworks to create discourse.
- **How something is said, meant and done is guided by relationships among the following**
 - Speaker intentions.
 - Conventionalized strategies for making intentions recognizable.
 - The meanings and functions of linguistic forms within the emergent contexts.
 - ◆ Language is context shaped but at the same time it also means context renewing as we utter for the context but what we utter also changes it.
 - The sequential context of utterances.
 - ◆ All discourse is actually an organization. How things get come together.
 - Properties of the discourse mode;
 - ◆ Narrative
 - ◆ Description
 - ◆ Exposition
 - The social context;
 - ◆ Participant identities and relationships
 - ◆ Structure of the situation
 - ◆ The setting
 - A cultural framework of beliefs and actions.

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Why Do we Study Discourse

In the end, discourse analysis is one way to engage in a very important human task. The task is this: to think more deeply about the meanings we give people's words so as to make ourselves better more humane people and the world a better, more humane place. While we still may disagree with others after reflection, we will, nonetheless, be in a position to be a much better critic, to represent what we believe in a much better way. But we may also sometimes change our own viewpoints to be more positively inclined toward others than we were initially. We will then, too, be better placed to cooperate with them in human endeavors, especially in a fast-changing, global, culturally diverse (and often dangerous) world.

James Paul Gee

Language is always political: When we speak or write we always use the grammar of our language to take a particular perspective on what the "world" is like. This grammatical perspective-taking process involves us in taking perspectives on what is "normal" or not; what is "acceptable" or not; what is "right" or not; what is "real" or not; what is the "way things are" or not; what is the "ways things ought to be" or not; what is "possible" or not; what "people like us" or "people like them" do or don't do...

NA

- Understanding things from different perspectives. Change of one word may change the whole meaning of the context.
- How things are normalized, how they are perceived, how do we make sense of the world are shaped by our and others' choices on discourse.

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Seven Building Tasks

- **Significance**
 - Using language to make things significant.
- **Activities**
 - Using language to get recognized as engaging in a certain sort of activity.
 - Such as course as we are in a classroom environment at this point.
- **Identities**
 - We enact, we negotiate, we claim identities through discourse.
 - Using language to get recognized as taking on a certain identity or role.
- **Relationships**
 - Using language to signal what sort of relationships we have, want to have, or are trying to have with our readers, listeners or other people, groups or institutions.
- **Politics**
 - All languages are political and ideological.
 - Using language to convey a perspective.
- **Connections**
 - Is about coherence.
 - Using language to render certain things connected or relevant to other things.
- **Sign Systems and Knowledge**
 - Making knowledge and belief claims within systems, different languages, varieties, non-verbal sign systems such as images.