

# LANGUAGE

&

SOUND

SYSTEM

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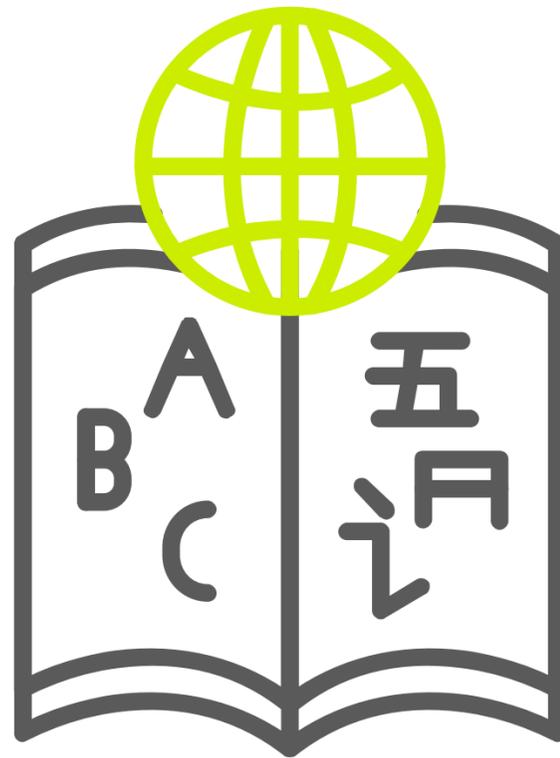
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# What is linguistics ?



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Linguistics can be defined as the **scientific** or **systematic study** of language. It scientifically studies the **rules, systems, and principles** of human languages.

# Scopes of linguistics





**Microlinguistics** includes phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics.



**Macrolinguistics** includes sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, applied linguistics, etc.



## ○ Phonetics

**Phonetics is the scientific study of speech sounds. It studies **how speech sounds are articulated, transmitted and received.****





## ○ Phonology

**Phonology is the study of how speech sounds function in a language. It studies the ways speech sounds are organized.**





## ○ Morphology

**Morphology is the study of the internal structure of words and word formation. It can be considered as the grammar of words.**



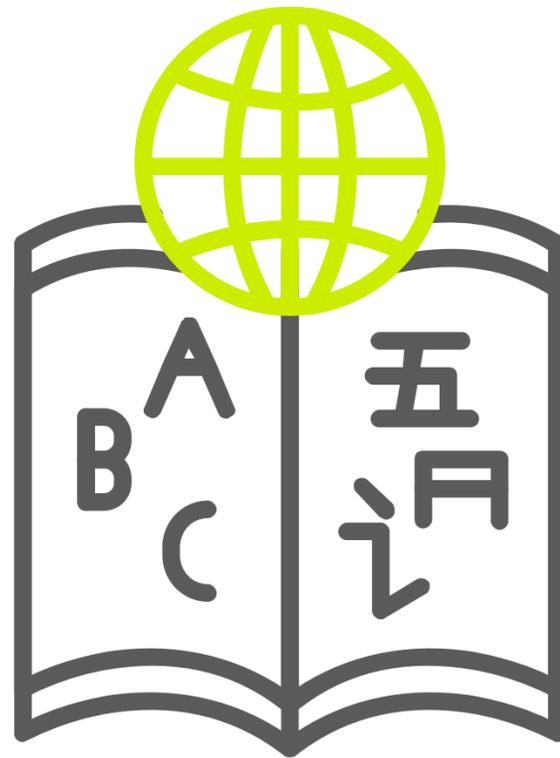


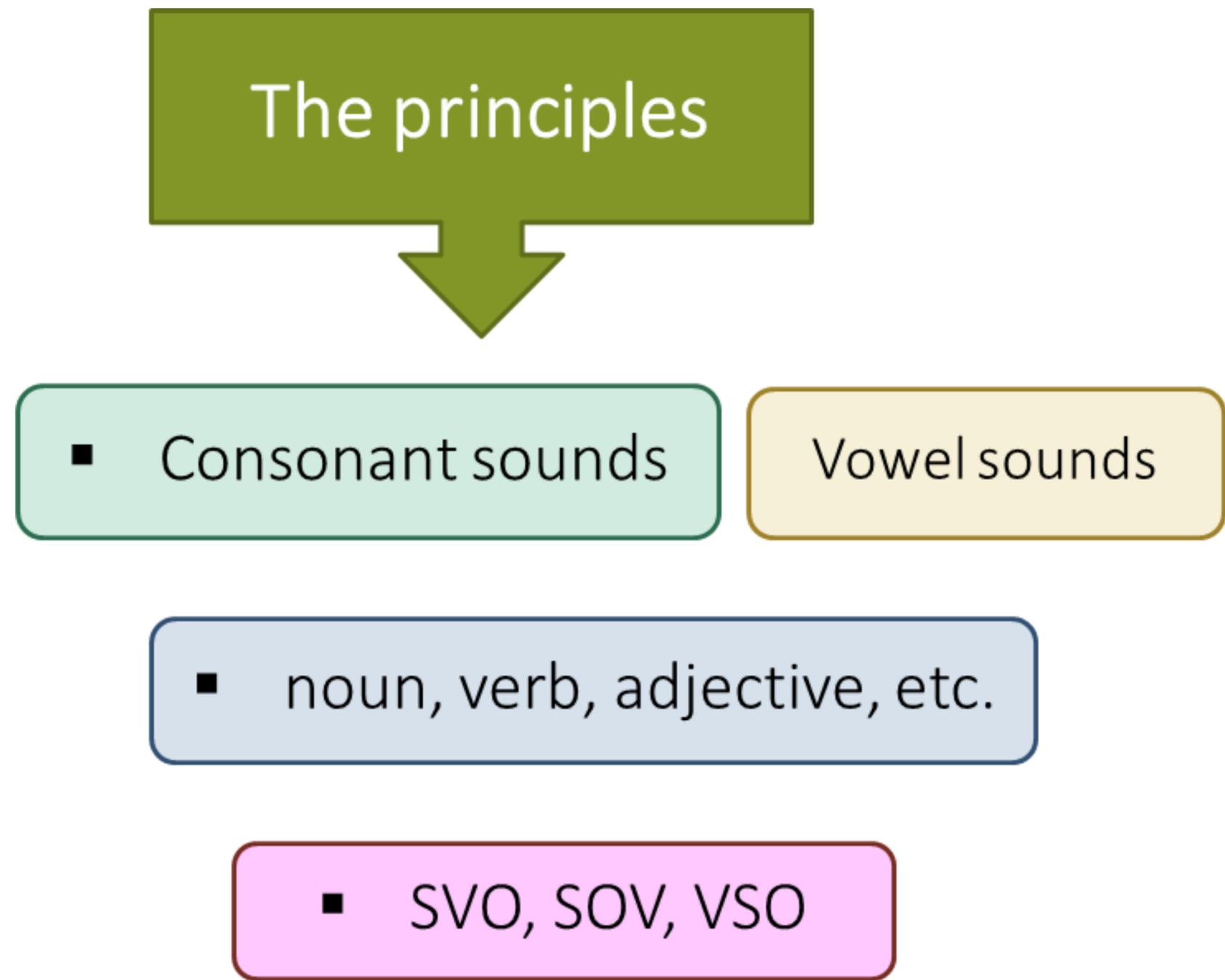
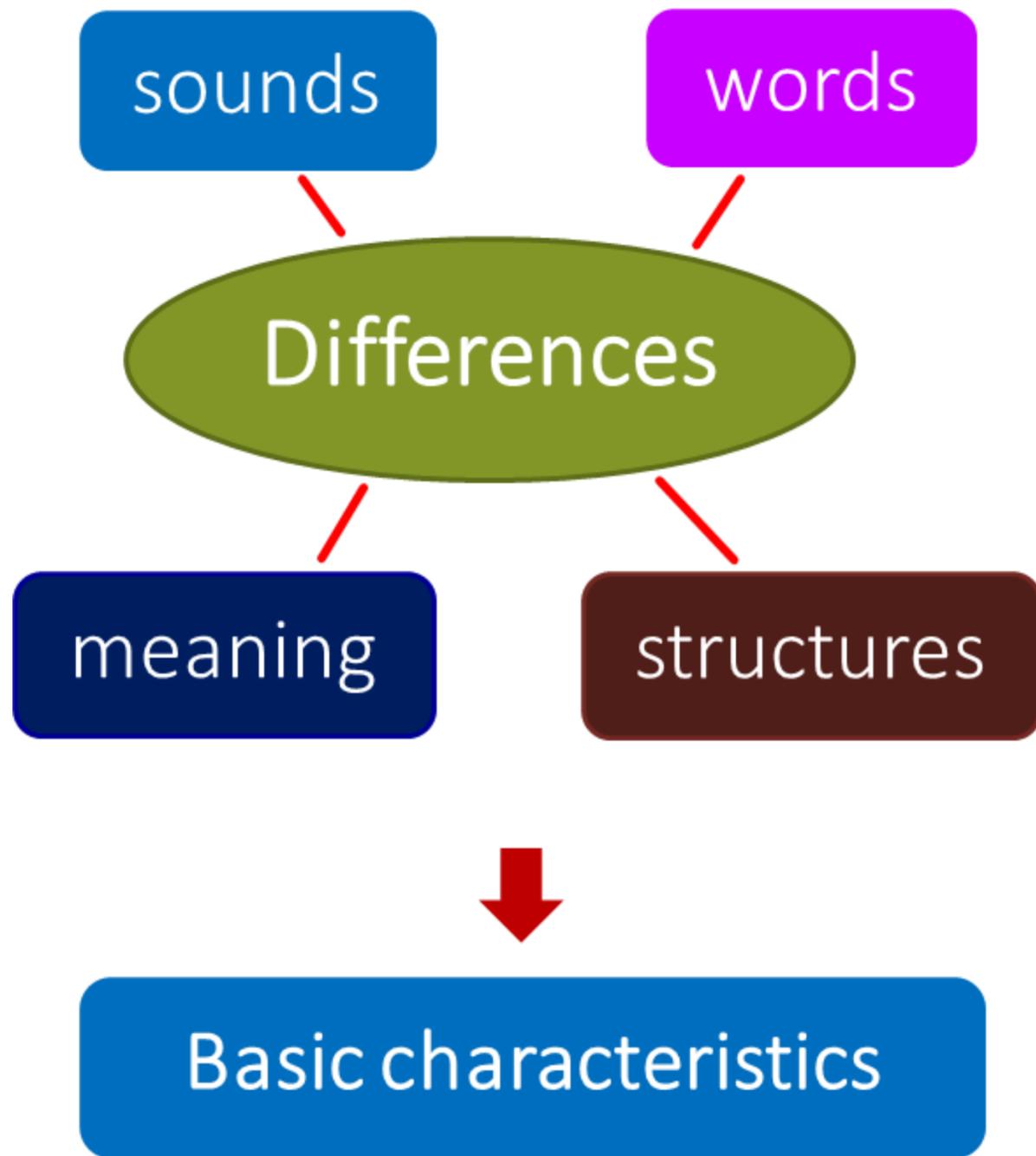
## ○ Syntax

**Syntax is the study of combining words into phrases, clauses, and sentences. It can be considered as the grammar of words.**



# Universal Properties of Language





# Universal Properties of Language



- Creativity
- Arbitrariness
- Discreteness
- Interchangeability
- Displacement
- Mutability
- Inaccessibility

# Creativity

The ability to generate words and expressions to transmit new thoughts and experiences, and the potential to expand the linguistic units into an infinite variety of bigger units.

- Tom sent the annual report.
- Tom sent *his boss* the annual report.
- Tom sent *his boss* the annual report *yesterday*.
- Tom sent *his boss* the annual report *yesterday morning*.

# Arbitrariness

A word's form being unrelated to its meaning and vice versa.

The same meaning is conveyed by **different forms**.

*bread* → (English)  
*pain* → (French)  
*madrai* → (Fijian)

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*chicken* → (English)  
*kai* → (Thai)  
*jee* → (Chinese)

The same form is expressed by *different meanings*.

lea /li:/ → meadow (English)  
→ bed (French)

# Discreteness

The language can be broken down into meaningful units and those units can be combined in various ways to form larger units.

➤ nap → /n/ , /æ/ , /p/ → pan

➤ net → /n/ , /e/ , /t/ → ten

➤ **Be careful!** There's broken glass on the floor.



# Interchangeability

Human language is not gender - specific.  
It is interchangeable between men and women.

- Some male birds have sounds that females lack.
  - Queen ants make chemical fragrances that no other ants can produce.
  - Some fish have sex-specific communication mechanisms.
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# Displacement

It can relate to non-existent entities and events (they are not present in reality). It can relate to content from the past, present, or future, both genuine and imagined. It expresses feelings, thoughts, and imagination.

- For example, even if you've never seen a ghost, you can talk about it using words.

# Mutability

Language change over time.

➤ I *ne seye not* the wordes.



➤ I seye *not* the wordes.



➤ I *will not* say the words.

# Inaccessibility

Speakers of a language are well-versed in how to use it; they are aware of which expressions are acceptable and which are not.

- John *almost finished* this project.
- \*John *very finished* this project.



**Thank you**