

Linguistics: The Study of Language

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Abstract— This article is going to deliberate the Social Change as a part of Linguistics. A phoneme in a particular language may or may not be a phoneme in another language. The syllable was introduced as a structural unit of phonological description. The concept of language as a special gift of god has been found in several diverse and unrelated cultures. Painini's grammar is one of the greatest monuments details, every syntactic usage of its author's speech. No other language, to this day, has been so perfectly described the language we speak now is the result of historical movements and it changes thousands of years; language may be defined only in a genetic way, which necessitates historical research.

Keywords— Linguistic, Ancient Greeks, Germanic group, Idiolect, Dialect, Syntax and morphology, Speech – community, Grimm's Law, Verner's Law, Phonemes, Anglo-Saxon on phonetics.

1. Introduction

Language changes take place due to many reasons. Some of these are social, cultural and economic. This often the deciding factor for language change is not only the communication media, but also some extra linguistics features. This article is going to talk about the Social Change in a language change part of Linguistics.

2. Language

Language is the Communicative means of man, which plays a great part in our life, and distinguishes man from the animals. Language can be studied in close connection with the history of human society. Fe. De. Saussure, the famous French Linguist, defined language as 'a system of signs expressing idea' (1969, 17)

According to Mr. William G. Moulton, a noted American Linguist, the branch of learning which defines, linguistics is the branch of learning which studies the language of all human society: how each such language is constructed, how it varies through space and changes through time: how it related to other languages: and how it is used by its speakers.

3. Linguistics

Linguistics, the study of language, is in its beginnings, only in 19th Century 'linguistics has been created as a science. The ancient Greeks had speculated boldly the origin, history and structure of language. The conception of language as a special gift of god has been found in several diverse and unrelated cultures. Painini's grammar is one of the greatest monument details, every syntactic usage of its author's speech (i.e Sanskrit). No other language, to this day, has been so perfectly described. Linguistics is an empirical science, since its data are observable. The importance of historical science is that it helps to place the present in perspective. The history of the English language shows that tie of English with the language of the Germanic group as well as its ties with the language of other groups. For eg. French and Latin.

Language changes in the course of time. Changes are constantly going on at all its levels. Linguistics changes are interdependent or inter-related in that a minor change may serve as a cause of other changes in the same or different systems and also in that minor changes enter the framework of larger once. We can study linguistics changes only by comparing related language or different historical changes of the same language. Many linguistic changes reflect the general tendency of all language 't' develop more abstract and more universal system and principles of correlation. Thus, instead of a variety of means used in old English to show the opposition of plural forms of nouns to singular forms almost universal means –s –es –is used now.

4. Dialect

Individual speech of an individual is called "Idiolect" whereas that of a group of people is called "Dialect" which form part of a said language. A group of people who use the same system of speech signals is a "Speech - community". In some language, there are differences from the language spoken by men and women.

Table 1: "Yana" Indian language of California

Name	men's language	women's language
'fire'	'auna	'una
'deer'	bana	ba

The Geographical condition, contiguity of other languages, modern innovations due to scientific developments etc., Are factors for the changes of language.

The linguist, while studying the language, divides it into various levels, such as, phonetic level, phonemic level, morphological level and syntactical level. The study of language can be conducted without special assumptions only so long as we pay no attention to the meaning of what is spoken. This phase of language study is known as phonetics. The phonetician can study either the sound-producing moments of the speaker (physiological phonetics) or the resulting sound-waves (physical or acoustic phonetics). A speech-utterance is what mathematicians call a 'continuum' it can be viewed as consisting of any desired number of successive parts.

The sound of the language is called "phone" which can be further divided into allophones. In analyzing language, these phones are grouped into "phonemes". The phoneme of a language are not sounds, according to "Leonard bloom field" a noted American linguist, but merely features of sound which the speakers have trained to produce and recognize in the current actual speech sound. A phoneme in a particular language may or may not be a phoneme of another language. The syllable was introduced as a structural unit of phonological description.

In morphology, word is taken as a basic unit. They are classified into root, stem and affixes. The affixes are further classified as prefix' infix' and suffix which make easy the study of language. Case in its modern usage as an in flexional category of nouns and other words inflectod6like them was the creation of the stoics. Morphology in other words called as "word Grammar".

Syntax deals with sentence as a whole. Traditionally the grammar of most languages is discussed under two heads, syntax and morphology. We can't draw a borderline between syntax and morphology.

During the course of the time, every language is subject to certain sound changes. As such, certain sound changes have occurred in 'English language' also. We can see below two major sound changes occurred in the Germanic group of language.

5. Grimm's Law

Young Grammarians, during 1880's declared that the sound changes are followed by certain principles. If ere are any exceptions which are due to analogy, i.e., By resemblances of sound or meaning which join different words together in the speaker's mind. Two concepts of sound laws and analogy were considered enough to explain practically everything in the development of language. For instance, in the field of phonetics comparison shows the following law.

- Indo-European P Corresponds to Greek P, Latin P, Lithuania P and American H or W

- IN Armenian, he appears where in Greek we find p.
- The Greak pyr 'fire' is hur" in Amerian .
- The Greak pater is 'hair' in Armenian.

German philosopher Jacob Grimm established the *principle of the sound shift*, in the Germanic group of languages. In his opinion, there were two sounds-shifting. The first occurred before the 4th century, the second had been completed by the 8th. The first relates to the Low German group: the second, the High German. These shifts can be clearly understood by the following.

Table 2, 3: Indo- European becomes in low German and in High Germen

(Voiced Aspirate)	(Voiced)	(Voiceless)
bh	b	p (b)
dh	d	t
gh	g	k(g)
b	p	ff (f)

(Voiced)	(Voiceless)	Fricative
d	t	zz (z)
g	k	hh
p	t	-
-	t	th

Firstly, the law describes the all creation only of consonants; secondly, it deals with the transformation of evolution language into the Germanic languages.

6. Verner's Law

During 1877 Karl Verner added to Grimm's Law a supplementary law that has become known by his name. He explained certain irregularities in the Grimm series with reference to the position of the accent in the Indo-European word. For example, according to Grimm's law, the Anglo- Saxon forms for "father", "mother" and "brother" should have been "father, mother, brother" since the Latin Pater, mater, frater, have, as middle consonant , t which should given th. Why, then has Anglo-Saxon only brother where this regular why are the other forms (faeper, modor) missing? Why does Anglo-Saxon show, instead of "faeper", "faeper" medial d instead of medial th?

Verner pointed out that in Sanskrit the accents on the words for father, mother and brother, fell as fellows; piter, matar , bhratar it comes before. The development of bhratar was therefore regular: t shifted to th (Anglo-Saxon) Brother (English brother). In case where the accent occurred after the t, however, a further shifting took place;

the t became d instead of th, diving the Anglo-Saxon faeder and modor. Verner's Law explained other peculiarities of Anglo-Saxon on phonetics and grammar.

7. Conclusion

Language expresses the life of people. The language we speak now is the result of historical movements of many changes over thousands of years; the language may be defined only in a genetic way, which necessitates historical research.

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