

The Meaning of Language

Terminology relating to Semantics

Conceptual Meaning: The most basic meaning of a word. Its definition based on structure and form.

Connotative Meaning: The associated meaning of a word, often its emotional associations.

Collocative Meaning: What a word means in relation to other words. The meaning of a word only when it is used with certain other related words.

Affective Meaning: When language is used to express personal feelings about the listener or the subject of the conversation.

Social Meaning: When using particular words and phrases associates a speaker with a particular social group.

Reflected Meaning: When a word or phrase has more than one meaning.

Thematic Meaning: The way words are organized to communicate focus and emphasis.

Terminology relating to Pragmatics

Subtext: The meaning underneath the obvious meaning of words and phrases.

Deixis: When you need contextual information to understand the meaning of words and phrases.

Conversational Implicature: When what is meant by the speaker is not directly said by the speaker.

Discourse Analysis: The study of written and spoken language in relation to its social context.