Principles and Parameters in Natural Language - Video course

COURSE OUTLINE

This course offers a view of human language as a rule governed system. It will show how language is learnt and how human mind stores structure of language. This course will introduce components of linguistics theory in generative framework. Some broad topics that will be covered in this course include: Introduction to language and linguistics as a scientific domain of systematic investigation into language at the levels of sounds, words, and sentences. Nature of learning language from generative perspective; Biological Foundation of Language; Generative Foundation of Language Acquisition; Language Acquisition Device; Universal Grammar; Structure of Language around Sounds, Words, and Sentences; Constraints on Word Formation; Introduction to phonotactic constraints on word formation; Order of Words in Sentence (Subject-Object-Verb); X-bar Theory (Specifiers vs. Complements, Arguments vs. Adjuncts); Theta-Theory; Theta Role Assignment; Case Theory (Abstract, Inherent, and Morphological Exceptional Case Marking, Nominative-Accusative vs. **Ergative-Absolutive** patterns); Raising Movement Movement); Movement in Passives; A-bar-Movement (Wh-Movement, Constraints on A-bar Movements; Binding Theory (Conditions A, B, and C, Role of Structural Relationships such a s C-command, Locality, Binding Domains); Constraints on Movement

COURSE DETAIL

Lecture Number	Lecture Topic
1	Introduction of the Course
2	What is linguistics? What is Language?
3	Language and Arbitrariness, Language and Dialect
4	E vs I Language. Language as a rule governed



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Additional Reading:

- 1. Carnie, A. Syntax: A
 Generative Introduction,
 London: Blackwell
 Publishing Co., 2007.
- 2. Cook, V. J. and Mark Newson, *Chomsky's Universal Grammar: An Introduction*, Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell,1996
- 3. Newmeyer, F. J.

 Generative Linguistics:
 A Historical
 Perspective, New York:
 Routledge,1996

Coordinators:

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	system	
5	Language Faculty, Language in Human Mind	
6	How do we learn language?	
7	Language Acquisition	
8	Innateness: Some Essential Concepts	
9	Structure of Language at the Level of Sounds	
10	Sounds (Vocal Apparatus)	
11	Places and Manners of Articulation	
12	Word Formation/Phonotactic Rules	
13	Rules of Word Formation (Singular-Plural)	
14	Sentence: An Introduction	
15	Making of a Sentence (Components)	
16	Grammaticality and Acceptability	
17	Subject and Verb in a Sentence	
18	Sentence: Objects and Verbs	
19	Phrase Structure	
20	X-Bar Theory	
21	Specifier and Complement	
22	Complements and Adjuncts	
23	VP Componenets	

24	Categorial Selections, Selectional Restrictions on verbs	
25	Thematic Relations	
26	Case	
27	Morphological and Abstract Case	
28	Structural Case	
29	Exceptional Case Marking	
30	Movement	
31	Motivations for Movement	
32	Questions and Movement	
32B	Guest Lecture: Generative Grammar (Professor B. N. Patnaik)	
33	Passives and NP Movement	
34	NP Movement and Raising	
35	Binding Theory and NP Interpretations	
36	Principles of Binding Theory	
37	Constraints on Movements	
38	Structure of Language in Theoretical Descriptions	
39	Negation	
40	Structure and Pragmatics	

References:

- 1. Culicover, Peter W. *Natural Language Syntax*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2009
- 2. Haegeman, L. *Introduction to Government and Binding Theory,* Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 1994

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