

Dr, Beattie – Communication Disorders Part 2 – Transcript

Slide 1 Language

Often we look at language and well lets just jump in and we will talk about this as we move forward. One definition of language and there are probably a million, the definition we will use to guide us is language is a common system used by a group of people for giving meaning to sounds, words, gestures and other symbols to enable communication with one another.

It is a common system, when we speak English we understand that there are certain rules, codes, and standards that apply and we use in order to communicate with each other. The key is, is that it is common and understood and it enables communication to occur.

Slide 2 Five Elements of Language

The five elements or five components of language. The first component is referred to as phonology. Phonology is that part of language that looks at the rules, the linguistic rules that govern the sound system of the language. It tells us that the s makes a certain sounds, the t makes a certain sound and when they are put together certain words that give us a certain understanding of what the language is all about. So phonology is the study of linguistic rules that govern the sound system of a language.

Morphology. The study of how the basic units of meaning are combined into words. These are things, most of the language stuff we do without thinking about what in the heck it is. I do some work with SAT preparation for juniors in high school and part of the SAT involves the new writing section where you have to identify errors. One of the consistent things that the SAT people do is try to confuse people in endings which morphology is all about. The endings they use are –er and –est. An –er ending is used when comparing two things if you compare more than two you use –est. She is greater than him at something, among the class he is the greatest.

Syntax. The rules governing the meaningful arrangement of words into sentences. The meaningful arrangement of words into sentences. That part of language being destroyed by emails and text messages. Complete sentences is a rarity in either of those technologies. It is how words go together to make sense, to utilize words into a sentence.

Semantics is that part of language involved with meaning...how language is used to convey meaning. When there is confusion or misunderstanding it is often a result of some semantic difficulty. Two people can be saying, or intending to say the same thing but saying it differently so the other person doesn't understand. They get in a big fight because they don't realize they are saying the same thing. Important but not something we think about day-to-day.

The fifth component is pragmatics. Pragmatics is that component of language that essentially is used or concerned with how language is used in social settings. We have

talked about this on several different occasions. Pragmatics tells me that there are certain things I can't say in class, there are some things we can say or do in one social setting but not in another. If you don't learn pragmatics you are always making someone mad or getting beat up.

These five components are primarily always there. They are involved in almost every element of language that occurs as we communicate with each other. Those are the elements of the components of language.

Let's move away and talk about some disorders.

Slide 3 Language Disorders

The first category of language disorders is referred to as a receptive language disorder. Receptive as to how we receive information. Receptive disorder is that thing that occurs and causes the person to have difficulty understanding the language that is being used.

An expressive language disorder is those factors involved in language that enable us to communicate or express our feeling to whomever we are communicating. An expressive disorder results in difficulty expressing oneself via language.

Slide 4 Dialects and Differences

We have a very difficult, confusing language in many circumstances. It is confusing because there are various, different elements involved in the language that have an impact on our understanding of what is going on. Dialect and differences are a big factor as far as this understanding is concerned. The way people speak is a result of their culture, children learn speech and language patterns before they enter school. The English language has several dialects and there are several of them there. There are many, many more than listed on the slide. The point is that these are dialectical differences, not language disorders.

Slide 5 Promoting Children's Communication

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