

Anthropology 102
Dr. Leanna Wolfe

Quiz #5
Language—Chapter 4

1. T/F Without language, the transmission of complex cultural traditions would be impossible.
True
2. What are three examples of non-verbal communication?
Use of eyes (direct, averted, down, glancing, etc)
Social distance (close, far, by gender, etc)
Dress – casual, skimpy, sexy, rich, poor
3. What does an up and down nod of the head imply?
Depends on the culture (not necessarily yes)
India what we think of “No” is “Yes”
4. What does a limp handshake imply?
Lack of confidence? Respect?
5. T/F Kinesic expressions like smiling and hand waving are cultural universals.
False -- in Japan a smile can mean NO
6. Do you text? How often? How is it an effective means of communication?
Note different usage patterns! Some people rarely make phone calls! Texting effective for time/location plans. Break up by text??
7. What social media platforms do you use? How much time do you spend posting, checking on the posts of others, etc?
Facebook for parents not young people! They use Snap Chat, Instagram, Twitter...Others? (youtube, vine, etc.) Does it inhibit face time with friends? Bullying in cyberspace? Addicted to phones?
8. Animal communication includes all of the following except:
a. odor b. body language c. calls d. symbolic communication
D – may be some with chimpanzees, but generally animals are direct
9. T/F Animals, like humans, have an open system of communication
False – just human, we can invent new words (names of new drugs)
10. In what respect is language arbitrary?
Any word/sound can mean anything
11. T/F Productivity refers to the ability to create an infinite range of understandable expressions from a finite set of rules.
True
12. T/F Displacement refers to the concept that messages may describe events distant in time and space.
True..we are able to refer to past, future, other locations.

13. How was Kanzi (a bonobo chimpanzee) able to learn an artificial language?

Witnessing his mother being taught ASL (American Sign Language) Trainers let him tag along but made no effort to *teach* him. Ultimately he was more adept than his mother..and became a superstar bonobo!

14. Which animals can be taught human language?

a. chimpanzees b. bonobos c. dolphins d. dogs e. cats

ABCD?

15. When did Human language emerge?

Possibly along with the emergence of humans 100,000 years ago

16. When did the earliest stone tablets emerge?

5,000 years ago

17. T/F The grammars of languages spoken by hunter-gatherers are fairly simple compared to modern English grammar.

False...spoken by fully modern humans, name full range of considerations (hunting, gathering, kinship, humor)

18. What is linguistic relativity?

All languages have value in their efficacy for communication...just because they are spoken by foragers, the inner city poor, doesn't mean they are not respectable as languages

19. T/F The human brain contains a genetically transmitted blueprint for building language.

True – universal grammar, re: Noam Chomsky (e.g. plurals, past etc.)

20. T/F Chinese children have a genetic predisposition to learning Chinese.

False...children learn whatever language is spoken in their environment.

21. Under what conditions do pidgin languages occur?

Contact situations where one group is more powerful than the other....people of subordinate cultures shift to the dominant language...but adapt parts of it to better reflect their linguistic needs.

22. T/F Phonology is the study of the sounds used in speech.

True

23. T/F A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound that distinguishes meaning in a language.

True

24. In English **bit** and **pit** have different meanings, thus **p** and **b** are:

a. lexicons b. sounds c. morphemes d. structures e. phonemes

E

25. What are the morphemes in **unworkable**?

Un Work Able (smallest unit of meaning)

26. Which language is the ancestral language of the Romance languages?

Latin (Romanian, Spanish, French, Italian)

27. T/F Linguists use glottochronology to discover histories relationships among languages.

True – e.g. Native American migration patterns via glottochronologies.

28. T/F Indo-European languages emerged about 5,000 years ago.

True

29. T/F Everyone speaks a dialect.

True (no unadulterated ways of speaking)

30. What is an example of a focal vocabulary?

Words unique to a particular profession/activity

31. T/F The Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis addressed the influence of language on thought.

True...if there the subject/color/taste is not named, it does not exist

32. William Labov's study of the use of hypercorrect "r" pronunciation in New York City demonstrates:

a. the "r" pronunciation is a prestige marker b. pronunciation varies with the social class of the speaker c. pronunciation of the "r" varies according to the sex of the speaker d. department store personnel speak the dialects of typical shoppers.

A, B, D

33. What is BEV?

Black English Vernacular (roots in American Southern Speech Style)

Issues of should it be recognized in schools? Taught? (re: Obama picked it up for political purposes—did not speak it as a child)

34. What is good English?

Any English that enables speakers to communicate

35. What is the "right" time to arrive to:

- a. Dinner party
- b. A weekend barbecue
- c. Class
- d. A movie
- e. A night club

36. T/F Men and women use language differently

True (Men competition/rank; women rapport)

37. T/F When women are in conversation with each other they tend to look directly at each other.

True

38. T/F Men in conversation with other men avoid direct eye contact.

True

39. Why do women often answer a question by posing another question?

To start conversation—to gain more connection.

40. T/F Males are more adept at listening than females.

False – subordinates need to pay better attention than dominants

41. T/F When men speak amongst each other they focus on building rapport.

False...try to outsmart each other

42. What are some of the challenges men and women face when they converse with each other?

**End of the day reports by women. Men try to fix things—women seek to vent
Men go into caves to concentrate**

43. T/F Conversational topics introduced by males are less likely to result in conversations than those introduced by females.

False – women try to start conversations!

44. T/F Women tend to be less direct than men.

True – think others should pick up on what they want

45. What is implied when someone comments, “It’s cold in here?”

--Turn on the heat...get me a sweater! (indirect speak)

46. What are the five most widely spoken languages in the world?

1. **Mandarin**
2. **English**
3. **Spanish**
4. **Hindustani**
5. **Russian**

47. What does proxemics refer to?

a. social distance b. the degree of eye contact c. degree of touching d. vocal volume
e. shoulder axis angle f. language spoken

A...re: proximity

48. T/F In English the arrangement of word in a sentence is crucial.

True: The dog bit the man vs The man bit the dog

49. Is there such a thing as Gay English?

Gadar..depends on culture area

50. Is it rude to interrupt someone while conversing with them?

New Yorkers...standard speech style. Makes conversation fun! Not be heard, but chime in; build intensity

51. What is code-switching (shifting)? Who does it and why?

Shifting from one language to another (re: dominant/subordinate political standing)

Also from one level of language (re: casual to formal) re: BEV/Valley Girl

52. Do you think it is important to rescue languages from extinction?

Much about the values / worldview are embedded in a language....lose a culture by losing its language.