

The Importance of Linguistics

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ABSTRACT

When it comes to the importance of the linguistics, many researchers can only see it as a subject. In contrast of that, the of the purpose of the work is to look at the importance of the linguistics form another side and provide information about its importance.

Obviously, the essay is about the importance of the linguistics. However, it is essential to understand what the linguistics itself is first. Generally, when you think of linguistics the word “languages” comes to mind, but the linguistics is the scientific study of language. There are many descriptions given from scientists about linguistics. There are some of them given below.

Linguistics is study of human speech including the units, nature, structure, and development of languages, or a language¹.

Linguistics is the study of language; it is a multifaceted subject covering sociolinguistics, language theory, language history, phonetics, semantics, and rhetoric.²

One of the most common and popular definitions is given below.

Linguistics is the study of language, how it works, how it is acquired, and how people use it to communicate.³

Although linguists are often interested in and can speak a variety of languages, linguists know more about how language works, rather than having the ability to speak and understand multiple languages. A polyglot is a person who speaks a multitude of languages. So, if linguistics doesn't teach you particular languages, why study it?

Linguistics help us to understand our world. Every language has its own exclusive series of characteristics such as slang, dialects, and what have you.

Each of them has their own way to construct words, phrases and sentences for communicating ideas.

¹ <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/linguistics>

² <https://www.oxfordreference.com/page/linguistics>

³ <https://www.canil.ca/wordpress/about-canil/why-study-linguistics/>

By comparing them we understand the world better.

It also helps us to improve communication between people, contributing translation activities and treating speech disorders in different languages.

It helps to recognize pattern to learn different languages. One of the best ways of to learn foreign language for polyglots is to choose their target language. If the target language belongs to the same family with their main language, it will be more easier to learn it. Because most common features to learn foreign languages are the same in languages which belong to the same specie . This method will help the students to acquire a basic understanding of the new language.

The linguistics is also important for language teachers as well. It is not only the study of the language, but also it covers the evolution of the historical context of the language speech and memory development. It includes the structure and meaning of speech, and of written languages as well as an understanding of the context in which certain words are used. Moreover, language teachers need linguistics when they teach a foreign language. Since, it provides the historical context of words origin that can helps students better comprehend the language. This is mainly important when it comes to comprehending the differences among conversational speech, formal speech, and abstract rules about word usage in different cultures.

Linguistics incorporate so many fields of study, such as sociology as it can be seen the difference in social spheres based on the way people speak, or the way people attempt to change their speech, philosophy as the study of semantics asks questions about meaning -'' Why do words mean?'', '' What they mean?'', ''How is meaning encoded in words?''.

Linguistics can also incorporate psychology and neuroscience. You can look at the brain and how it is wired for language and communication. You can study language acquisition and how it can be impaired, or how it can effect brain function in later life. Also, it can be seen as the ultimate combination between the sciences and the humanities. It incorporates history, politics, art, philosophy, psychology, and culture.⁴

Briefly conclude, studying the linguistics is not only important for linguists, but also for other scientists doing research in fields, such as culture, psychology, philosophy. Apart from that, it also can be useful for language teachers, students leaning foreign language.

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