



COLANG 2022

Introduction to Linguistics I

Patricia A. Shaw & Adrienne Tsikewa

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Questions:

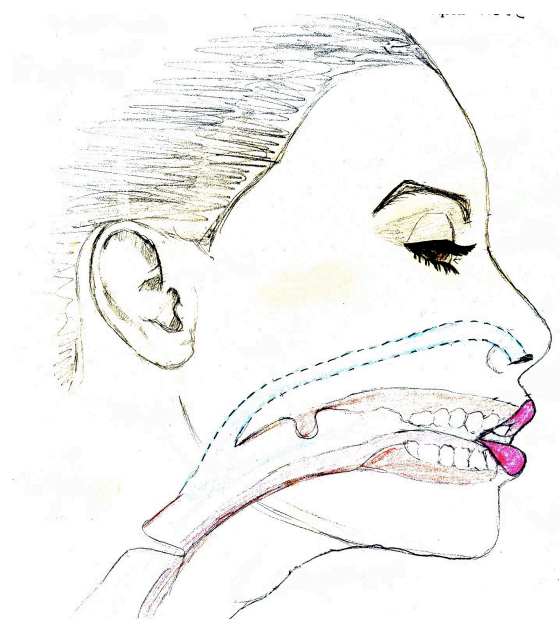
1. What is a *grammar*?
2. How do all the *different components* of a grammar interact with each other?

Our goals at each level: to find the patterns,
to recognize the “exceptions”,

*and ... to celebrate the resilience of the peoples,
the cultures, and the knowledge systems that are
embodied in the languages we are working with.*



What *is* a grammar?

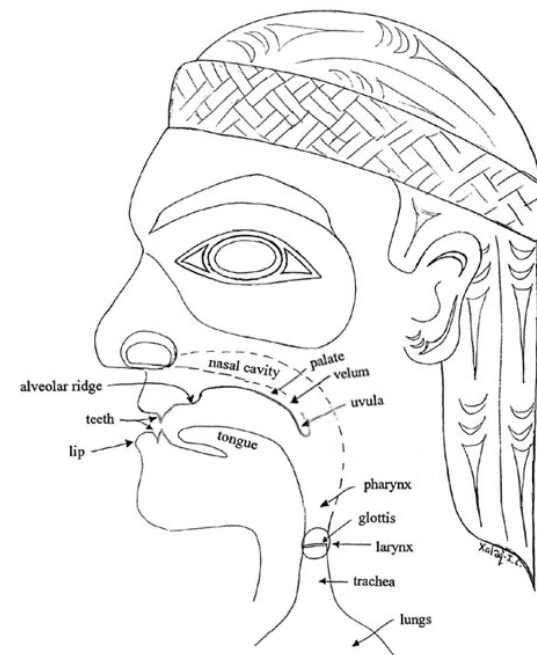


Angela Code
Sayisi Dene

Production

wə ńan čx^w
wə nə słi?

Perception



χaləq' Chief Ian Campbell
Squamish Nation



What's *in* the “language bubble”?

Meaning



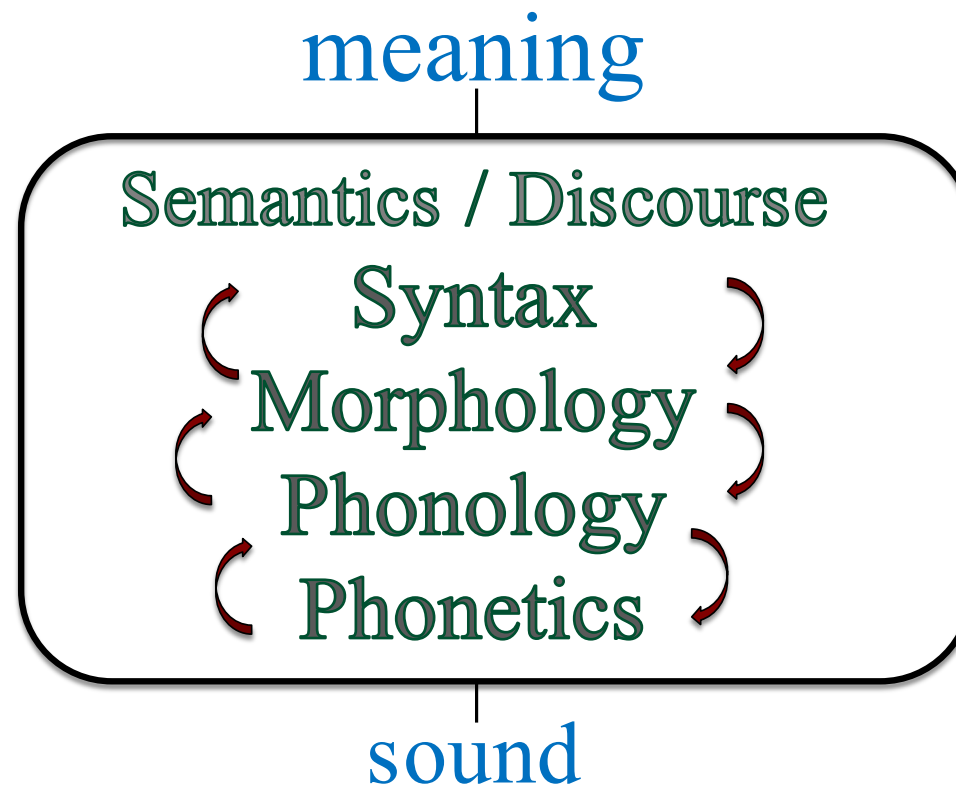
THE BLACK BOX
[= what is sometimes
considered to be the
“grammar”]



Sound



The 'core' components of a grammar:



Grammatical **structures** and **use** are impacted by many other domains of relevance:

stories,
oral
history

dialects /
variation

prayer /
spirituality

meaning

Semantics / Discourse

Syntax

Morphology

Phonology

Phonetics

sound

identity

medicine,
healing

music

family

historical change



Where will we start??

Sounds:

- Phonetic **symbols**: ə æ θ ʔ ɸ χ ...
- **Transcription** systems:
 - IPA: International Phonetic Alphabet
 - NAPA: North American Phonetic Alphabet
- Community **orthographies** (writing systems)
- **Articulatory** phonetics: how speech sounds are produced
- **Acoustic** phonetics: properties of sound waves



Transcription vs “orthographies”

I take it you already know
Of tough and bough and cough and dough
Others may stumble but not you,
On hiccough, through, slough and though.

...

Beware of heard, a dreadful word
That looks like beard and sounds like bird,
And dead -- it's said like bed, not bead ...

attributed to T. S. Watt. 1954. appeared in *The Guardian*.



On English spelling...

The English have no respect for their language...

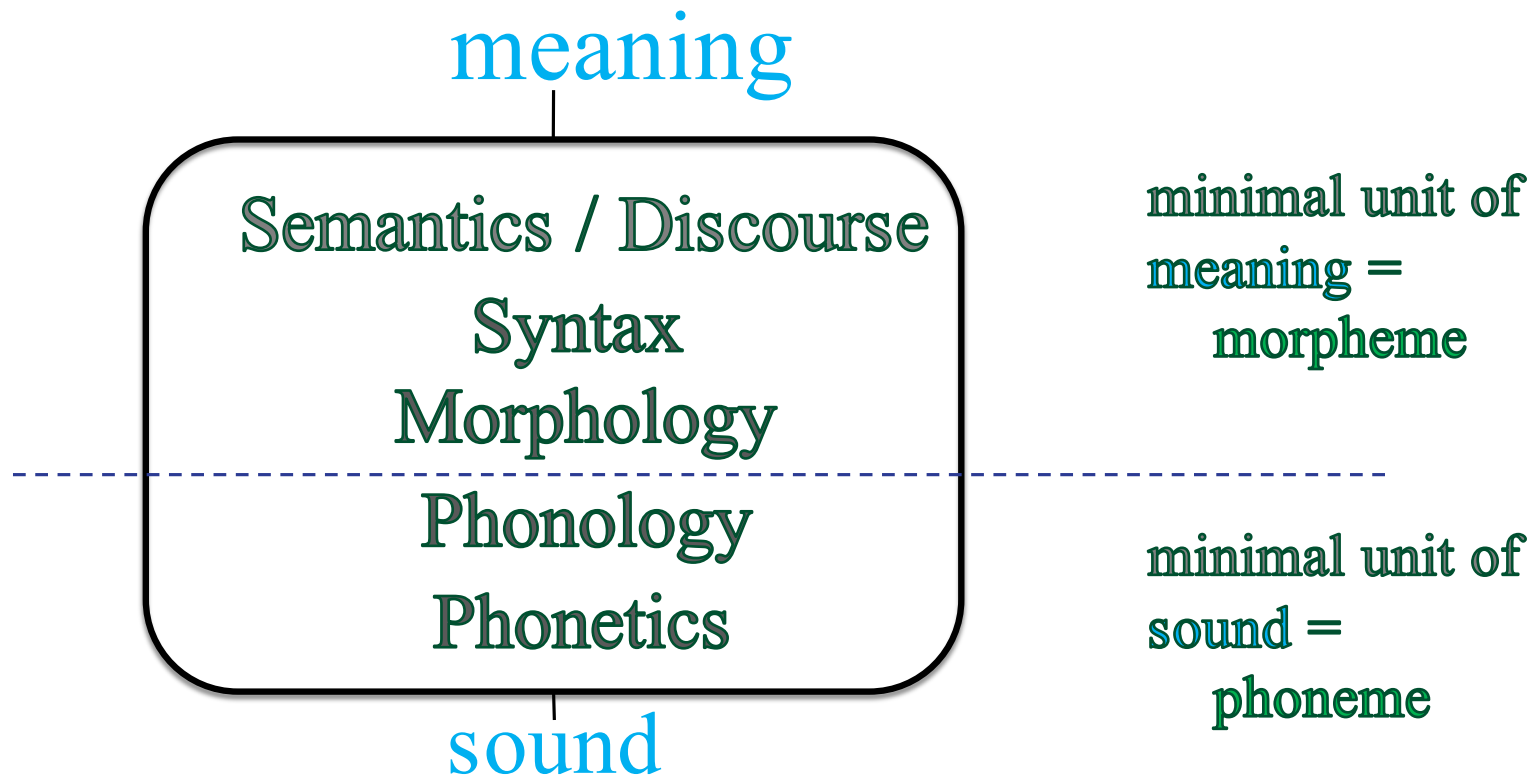
They cannot spell it
because they have nothing to spell it with
but an old foreign alphabet
of which only the consonants – and not all of them –
have any agreed on speech value.

George Bernard Shaw, Preface to *Pygmalion*. 1912.

[*cf.* My Fair Lady]



Recall the context: *What's in a **grammar**?*



English vowels: *how* many??

i *beat, pizza*

u *boot, flute*

ɪ ~ I *bit*

ʊ ~ U *book*

e *bait*

ə *above [əɪ] bird*

o *boat*

ɛ *bet*

[ʌ] *but, above*

(ɔ) *bought,
caught*

æ *bat*

a ~ ɑ *father, cot*

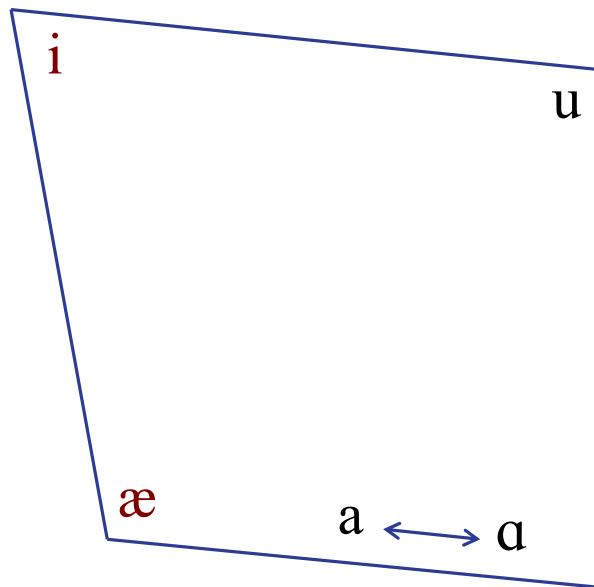


English vowels: *practice pronunciation without the cue words!*

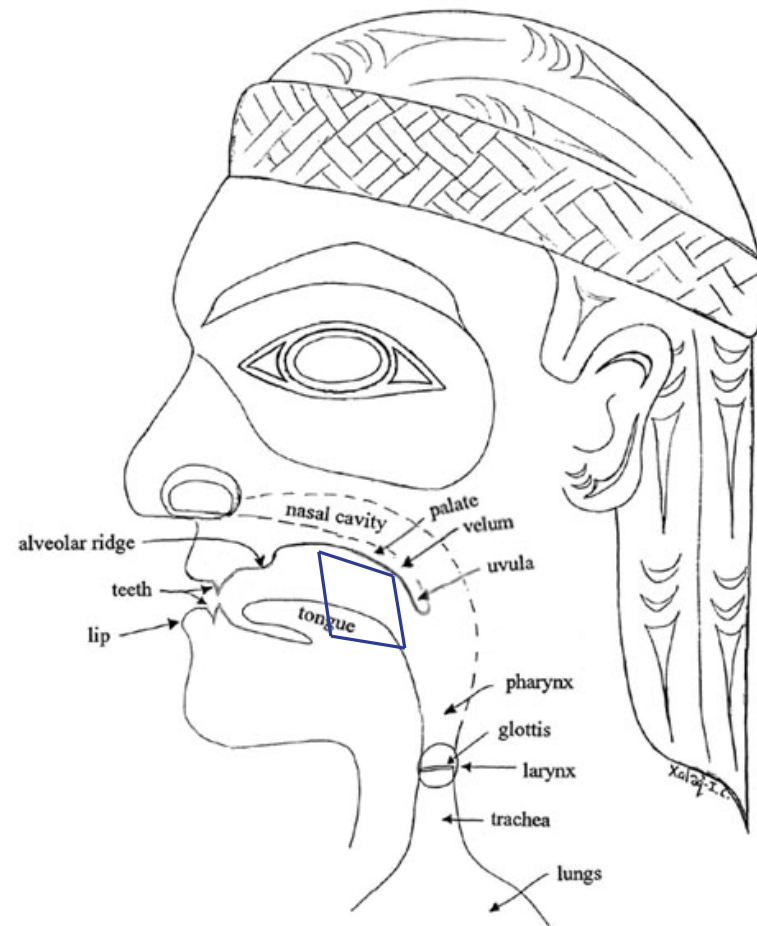
	Front vowels	Central vowels	Back vowels
High	i ɪ ~ I		u ʊ ~ U
Mid	e ɛ	ə [ər] [ʌ]	o (ɔ)
Low	æ	a ~ ɑ	



Where are vowels articulated?



The vowel space



Assignment #3. English vowels

Following the conventions for English vowel symbols, transcribe the vowels in the following English words.

Note: the consonants are represented here in a broad NAPA transcription.

e.g. 1. *cleaning* kl ____ n ____ ŋ
 kl **i** n **ɪ** ŋ





[i]



[ɪ]



[u]



[ɪ]



[ʊ]



[o]



[e]



[ə]



[ɛ]



[ʌ]



[ɔ]



[æ]



[a]



[ɑ]



[ɒ]

IPA and Phonetic Resources

<https://www.ipachart.com/>

<http://archive.phonetics.ucla.edu/>

[Vocal cords in action video](#)

<https://enunciate.arts.ubc.ca/linguistics/world-sounds/>

