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- The scope of psycholinguistics
- The historical context

2

What is psycholinguistics

- Psycholinguistics is the study of how individuals comprehend, produce and acquire language.

3

The scope of psycholinguistics

- Language process and linguistic knowledge
1. What knowledge of language is needed for us to use language?
 - tacit knowledge –how to perform
 - explicit knowledge –process or mechanisms
 2. What cognitive processes are involved in the ordinary use of language?

4

Language knowledge

- Phonology
- Syntax
- Semantics
- Pragmatics

5

What happens when we comprehend a sentence?

- Garden path sentences-- sentences whose wording leads one to expect one meaning, but it turns out to be another one.
- 總經理喜歡喝葡萄酒的雇員
- The horse raced past the barn fell.

6

Indirect request

- Can you pass the salt?
- Pass the salt.

7

Language in aphasia

- Wernicke's aphasia (p.7)
-
- Before I was in the on here, I was over in the other one. My sister had the department in the other one.

8

Language in children 1

- 1 year old
- When the mother leaves and room and comes back with the child's favorite doll, the child says "doll."
- When the mother is helping the child with lunch, she points at the milk and says "more."

9 **Language in children 2**

- Two word stage
- Dominated by content words

10 **The historical context**

- Early psycholinguistics
speech production is a word by word process and it begins with a whole sentence
- behaviorism and verbal behavior
language model and error correction
- Semantic differential
- Linguists emphasize behavioristic treatment of language

11 **Later psycholinguistics**

- The term psycholinguistics appeared in 1965.
- Associative chain theory
A sentence consists of a chain of associations between individual words in a sentence.
- Discontinuous constituents
George picked up the baby.
George picked the baby up.

12 **Poverty of stimulus**

- (9) John believes he is incompetent.
- (10) John believes him to be in competent.
- (11) John wants him to win.
- (12) John wants Bill to see him.

13 **Chomsky's ideas**

- Development is based not a parental speech but on innate language knowledge.
- What set of rules governs the child's developing grammar, and when does this set develop?
- References to Chomsky in psycholinguistic studies rose sharply in the late 1960s, peaked in the mid-1970s, and then fell off by the early 1980s.

14 **Methodologies**

- 1 **Rationalism**
 - heredity
 - nature
 - argument
 - linguists
- 2 **Empiricism**
 - environment
 - nurture
 - collection of data
 - psychologists

15 **Current directions**

- syntax → phonology, semantics, pragmatics
- Comprehension → production
- Brain mechanism
- Applications: reading, bilingualism, language disorders