

Lesson Plan

NEUROHEADWAY

Neuroscience Into Education

Language vs. Mind & Thought

And How It Affects Our Ethical Outlook?

1. Definitions:

a. Language:

- i. "Language is a purely human and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions and desires by means of voluntarily produced symbols."
(Edward Sapir, *Language: An Introduction to the Study of Speech*. Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1921)
- ii. "A language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols by means of which a social group cooperates."
(B. Bloch and G. Trager, *Outline of Linguistic Analysis*. Waverly Press, 1942)
- iii. From now on I will consider a language to be a set (finite or infinite) of sentences, each finite in length and constructed out of a finite set of elements."
(Noam Chomsky, *Syntactic Structures*, 1957)
- iv. "A language consists of symbols that convey meaning, plus rules for combining those symbols, that can be used to generate an infinite variety of messages."
(Wayne Weiten, *Psychology: Themes And Variations*, 7th ed. Thomson Wadsworth, 2007)
- v. "We can define language as a system of communication using sounds or symbols that enables us to express our feelings, thoughts, ideas, and experiences."
(Bruce Goldstein, *Cognitive Psychology: Connecting Mind, Research, and Everyday Experience*, 2nd ed. Thomson, 2008)

b. Sign:

- i. A sign is a double entity made up of the *signifier* (sound pattern: /dɒg/) and the *signified* (or concept: *an animal with four legs and a tail, often kept as a pet or trained for work, for example hunting or guarding buildings*)

c. Thought:

- i. The product of mental activity
- ii. The act or process of thinking
- iii. Thought refers to ideas or arrangements of ideas that are the result of the process of thinking. Though thinking is an activity considered essential to humanity, there is no consensus as to how we define or understand it.

d. Ethical outlook:

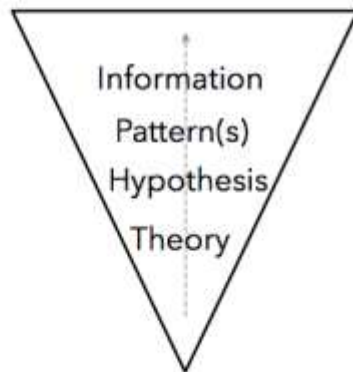
- i. The collection of thoughts and beliefs that an individual holds that concern the branches of ethics.

Power point Example

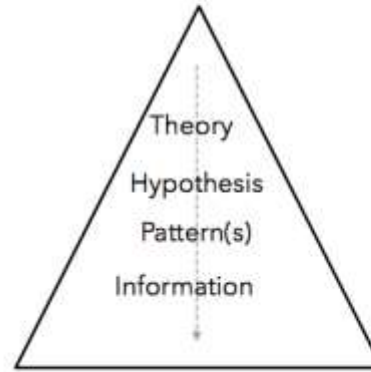
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Inductive thinking



Deductive thinking



Some Rules To Remember

- **No use of electronic devices** (e.g. phones, laptops) is allowed. Talking dictionary is acceptable, however do not connect to the internet!
 - **Printed materials** (print-outs of news article, matter file) is allowed during the preparation time, but not during the speech. (i.e. it cannot be brought up to the podium)
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