WHAT IS LINGUISTICS?
LINGUISTICS IS THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF HUMAN NATURAL LANGUAGE.
THEORETICAL LINGUISTICS INVOLVES THE SYSTEMATIC AND ANALYTICAL STUDY OF: SPEECH SOUNDS, WORDS, SENTENCES, MEANING, AND DISCOURSE, AND HOW THEY EVOLVE OVER TIME.
APPLIED LINGUISTICS INVOLVES: THE MENTAL, SOCIAL, CULTURAL, AND EDUCATIONAL ASPECTS OF LANGUAGE.
WHAT LINGUISTICS IS NOT:

- Multilingualism or polyglottism
- Translation or interpretation
- Prescriptive grammar
SUBFIELDS OF LINGUISTICS INCLUDE:

- Phonetics and Phonology
- Morphology
- Syntax
- Semantics
- Pragmatics
- Sociolinguistics
- Historical Linguistics
- First and Second Language Acquisition
- Psycholinguistics and Psychology of Language
- Neurolinguistics
- Evolution of Language
- Study of Writing Systems
THE FIRST STEP TO STUDYING LINGUISTICS IS TO OPEN YOUR EARS!
LINGUISTS ARE INTERESTED IN QUESTIONS LIKE:
HOW MANY LANGUAGES ARE THERE IN THE WORLD?
WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A LANGUAGE, A DIALECT, AND AN ACCENT?
HOW CAN WE ANALYZE THE GRAMMAR OR SYNTAX OF A SENTENCE WITH A TREE?
WHAT DO LANGUAGES HAVE IN COMMON AND HOW DO THEY DIFFER?
HOW DO LANGUAGES EMERGE? HOW AND WHY DO THEY CHANGE?
WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE?
HOW ARE WORLD EVENTS INFLUENCED BY CONTACT BETWEEN GROUPS THAT SPEAK DIFFERENT LANGUAGES?
HOW DOES LANGUAGE INFLUENCE THINKING OR PERCEPTIONS OF THE WORLD?

Language shapes the way we think, and determines what we can think about.

— Benjamin Lee Whorf —
HOW DO CHILDREN LEARN THEIR FIRST LANGUAGES?
DO CONVERSATIONS FOLLOW RULES?

Be Truthful

Maxim of Quantity
Don’t talk for too long or for too little.

Maxim of Relation
Be Relevant
HOW DO CHILDREN AND ADULTS LEARN SECOND LANGUAGES?
HOW CAN I BE A BETTER TEACHER OF ENGLISH OR CHINESE LEARNERS?
PLACES TO LEARN ABOUT LINGUISTICS:
LANGUAGE CLASSES

LITERATURE AND OTHER CLASSES

EVERYDAY LIFE

TUTORING AND WORK
CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES
THE MEDIA
ONLINE
TRAVEL
ANYWHERE, ANY TIME!
LINGUISTICS OFFERS YOU A NEW, MORE AWARE WAY OF EXPERIENCING LIFE AND THE WORLD!

Don’t get bogged down in boring linguistics texts…
TEXT SOURCE

- http://www.cla.csulb.edu/departments/linguistics/about-linguistics/