

is the study of meaning in language, often confined to stable and context-free aspects, unlike pragmatics which deals with meaning variation with context. The question we ask and attempt to answer at the level of semantics is "how is language organized in order to be meaningful?" Semantics is the most abstract level of linguistic analysis, as we cannot see or observe meaning as we can observe and record sounds. Meaning is related very closely to the human capacity to think logically and to understand. When we try to analyze meaning, we are trying to analyze our own capacity to think and understand our ability to create meaning. Semantics concerns itself with giving a systematic account of the nature of meaning. Semantics is a field that studies the relationship between signifiers like words, phrases, signs, and symbols and their meaning. It also addresses the issue of semantic change, or the change of meaning. Semantics focuses on three main problems: psychological, logical, and linguistic. Psychological problems involve understanding why people communicate and what a sign is, while logical problems examine the relationships between signs and reality. Linguistic approaches, as highlighted by David Crystal, aim to study the properties of meaning in a systematic and objective manner, considering a wide range of utterances and languages.

is a special semantic relation where a word is a near-synonym, but substitution does not leave the same truth-conditions. It is often used to indicate that the speaker is grappling for precision but may not possess the precise vocabulary or technical term for the object in mind. Examples of plesionyms include "It wasn't misty, just foggy" and "He was murdered, or rather executed." As the subject has developed, new dimensions in the nature of meaning have begun to be described, and today's semanticists have at their disposal modern techniques such as symbolic logic, new theories of grammar such as cognitive and generative grammar, and research in psychology and cognitive science. Semantic theories have influenced approaches to describing word meaning and are particularly relevant to Lexicography and vocabulary teaching. Semantics focuses on the meanings of sentences and other linguistic objects, but not their syntactic arrangements or pronunciation. "If the situation is a simple event, as in the boy kicked the ball, then the verb describes an action (kick). The noun phrases in the sentence describe the roles of entities, such as people and things, involved in the action. We can identify a small number of semantic roles (also called "thematic roles") for these noun phrases" [12]. Among the most important semantic roles we include: the entity that performs the action; the entity that undergoes the action; the one who perceives something; an entity used to perform an action; the place where the action happens; the place from which an action originates; the place where the action is directed.

is an attribute of closely located words in coherent discourse, where two words collocate in an acceptable and expected way. Cognitive linguistics tends to disclaim the difference between pragmatics and semantics. Semantics is not only concerned with assigning meaning to individual units, such as morphemes or words, but also with the relationships between them, how they act upon each other, and how they fuse and combine in different ways. Semantics is the complex interplay of morphology, lexis, and syntax, but it does not account for all aspects of meaning.