

Definition of Sociolinguistics Dell Hymes A socially constituted linguistics is concerned with social as well as referential meaning, and with language as part of communicative conduct and social action. Its task is the thorough going critique of received notions and practices, from the standpoint of social meaning, that is, from a functional perspective. Context of situation (Bronislaw Malinowski) Context refers to the situation, within which language functions. It may be physical/environmental, social context or institutional situation Linguistic Context (Linguistic environment): the set of words in the same sentence or utterance Example : the word “shoot” dribble goal over the bar 1. Interpersonal Context : Psychological considerations that influence speech or talk (happy, sad, bored, excited) Situational/socio-cultural Context : socio-cultural considerations. The context of culture includes beliefs, value system, religion, conventions Institutional Context : the context in some specialized kind of settings like educational institutions (University, college, faculty etc)