

Language Thought

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Man is described as homo loguens (man the speaking animal). This is an important stratum which differentiates man from animal. Language is nothing but a vehicle which conveys one's thought to others. If we have a device to convey thoughts directly between human minds, there we need no language at all. Human mind is having some kind of sentence producing mechanism. With this man makes enormous sentences. Hence he may be called as homo Grammaticus (man knowing grammar). The sentence producing mechanism shows that the man is following the grammar of the language he speaks. But he may not describe the grammar explicitly. This is called performance and competence is the capacity to describe the grammar of the language he speaks

Human speech organs are originally designed for eating and breathing. However at sometime in the past man developed the organs in to speech organs. By imitating elders a child learns language. Though a child's capacity is to learn any language, the mother tongue comes first and easy. Because the speech organs so flexible and trained for that speech. Hence the mother tongue occupies prime place in one's life.