

Titel: BREV TIL: Eli Fischer-Jørgensen FRA: Niels Ege (1950-09-30)

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Anvendt udgave: Louis Hjelmslev og hans kreds

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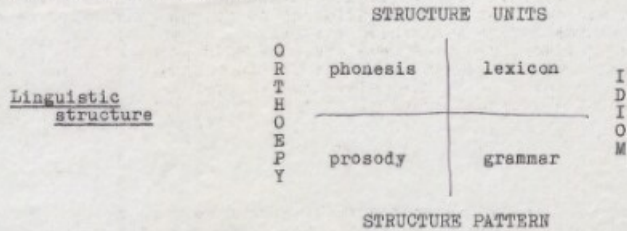
It is important to distinguish between ~~an~~ analysis of structure and structure itself. Structure is language, analysis is a complex of techniques employed by the linguists to explain the structure.

When the speaker of a language learns his language, he learns two things: 1) habitual adjustment of pronunciation, 2) he learns to 'mean', he learns the function of symbols. The structure accordingly can be divided into 1) pronunciation + 'something else', and 2) semiosis, which is the act of meaning or the conveyance or process of meaning.

Under pronunciation: the child has to learn the sounds, the units of pronunciation and ~~how~~ to pronounce them, but furthermore the arrangements of sounds. E.g., /blimiks/ is theoretically possible in English, /mbiksl/ is not.

The same thing takes place in 'semiosis' (sic!): the child must ~~ix~~ learn not only the meanings, ~~xx~~ the morphemes of the language, but also the arrangements of morphemes. As for the problem of terminology, see Whitehead, Introduction to Mathematics (1911)!

"The items which have to be learned when learning a language can be divided in two ways:



Orthoepy: structure of pronunciation.

Idiom: structure of meaning, structure of semiosis.

Phonesis: (that part of structure which ~~x~~ consists of) the units of pronunciation.

Prosody: pattern of arrangement of ^{the units of} pronunciation.

Lexicon: units of meaning (semantic units).

Grammar: pattern of arrangement of the units of meaning.

All languages must have these 4 kinds of items. You will have to learn both orthoepy and semiosis and to learn the units before the pattern of arrangements. These 4 kinds of items are necessary and sufficient for any language.

Historically, phonesis has been far more studied than the others, next comes lexicon. The greatest hindrance for analysis has been eclecticism, the study of the 4 different parts of structure from different points of view. It is possible to analyze all four by means of one system of principles. Lexicon has been studied in the US for the last 5-6 years.