HH/PSYC 3290
Psycholinguistics

Review for Final Exam

Lecture 6
- sound, meaning and language
- meaning as mental structures
- types of meaning
- neural network of meaning and the role of experience
- uniqueness of individual neural network for each concept/meaning of word
- studying language → studying of mental world
- building mental model from language

Lecture 7
- Geshwind-Wernicke’s model of language processes (and its limitation, e.g., Dronkers et al., 2007; Hickok & Poppel, 2007; Binder et al., 1997)
- Common principles between neural network and connectionist models
- Ability of a network
- How network resembles internal representation
- Shortcomings of connectionist models

Lecture 8
- Deficits in spoken and written languages
- Deficits in understanding spoken and written languages
- Neurological causes of aphasia
- Types of Aphasia and their characteristics
- Symptoms in reading for dyslexics
- Neurological etiology of dyslexia

Lecture 9
- Nature of bilingualism
- End products of bilingual subtypes
- Linguistic consequences of bilingualism
- Cognitive consequences of bilingualism
- Bilingualism and brain structures
Essay Questions:
After three months into studying language, you should have realized how complex language processing is. The following problems are designed to allow connections to be made between lectures (limited to those after the midterm).

1) Based on course material (brain, disorders, alternative language processing, and theoretical standpoints), what is your speculation between language and other cognitive domains, such as abstract reasoning, nonverbal intelligence, working memory, and attention? Do you think:
   a) Language is part of cognition?
   b) Language is isolated from other cognitive domains?
   c) Language overlaps with cognition, but also has its uniqueness in the human mind?

Hint 1: Reflect on the materials we covered in class, especially the “applied” lectures (lectures 7-9). Evaluate the research findings presented in class and in Altmann’s book.
Hint 2: Make a decision on which position you take (easier to just take one, don’t be greedy and try to answer more than one).
Hint 3: List your argument accordingly.