Psycholinguistics

Introduction

Nina Setyaningsih
What is psycholinguistics?
Relationship between Cognitive Psychology and Other Disciplines

What is “psycholinguistics”? 

How are these two going to communicate? 
- What are the “issues” going to be?
What is “psycholinguistics”?

Psycho Linguistics

The study of language from a psychological perspective.
What is “psycholinguistics”? 

**Psycho**

Mental Processes
- Short Term Memory
- Long Term Memory
- Encoding
- Retrieval
- Mental Representations

**Linguistics**

Linguistic Theory
- Phonology
- Morphology
- Syntax
- Semantics
- Rules
Psycholinguistics

- Integration of the fields of psychology and linguistics
- is the study of how individuals comprehend, produce, and acquire language.
- Stresses the knowledge of language and the cognitive processes involved in ordinary language use.
- Are also interested in the social rules involved in language use and the brain mechanisms associated with language.
Major question 1: What knowledge of language is needed for us to use language?

• Tacit knowledge: refers to the knowledge of how to perform something, but not aware of full rules
  Ex.: riding a bike, playing the piano, driving a car

Knowing a language involves knowing its grammar and lexicon. Knowledge of such a system will give a speaker the ability to organize ideas into words and sentences, and sentences into sequences of sounds.
• Explicit knowledge: refers to the knowledge of the processes or mechanisms used in performing that thing
knowledge that can be readily articulated, codified, stored and accessed. It can be easily transmitted to others. Most forms of explicit knowledge can be stored in certain media
➔ your knowledge of a friend’s telephone number
➔ The information contained in encyclopedias and textbooks
Major question 2: What cognitive process are involved in the ordinary use of language?

• Ordinary use of language means such things as understanding a lecture, reading a book, writing a letter, holding a conversation.

• Cognitive process means processes such as perception, memory, and thinking
Examples of language and language processes

1. Garden path sentences

   The old man the boat.

   The man who hunts ducks out on weekends

The subjective impression is one of following a garden path to a predictable destination until it is obvious that you were mistaken in your original interpretation and thus are forced to “backtrack” and reinterpret the sentence.

→ They take you by the hand, lead you down a winding path, and leave you tricked and confused when you reach a dead end.
2. Indirect requests

Can you open the door?

vs

Open the door!
3. Language in aphasia

An aphasia is a language disorder due to brain damage. Example of Wernicke’s aphasia:

Before I was in the one here, I was over in the other one. My sister had the department in the other one.

My wires don’t hire right.

4. Language in children