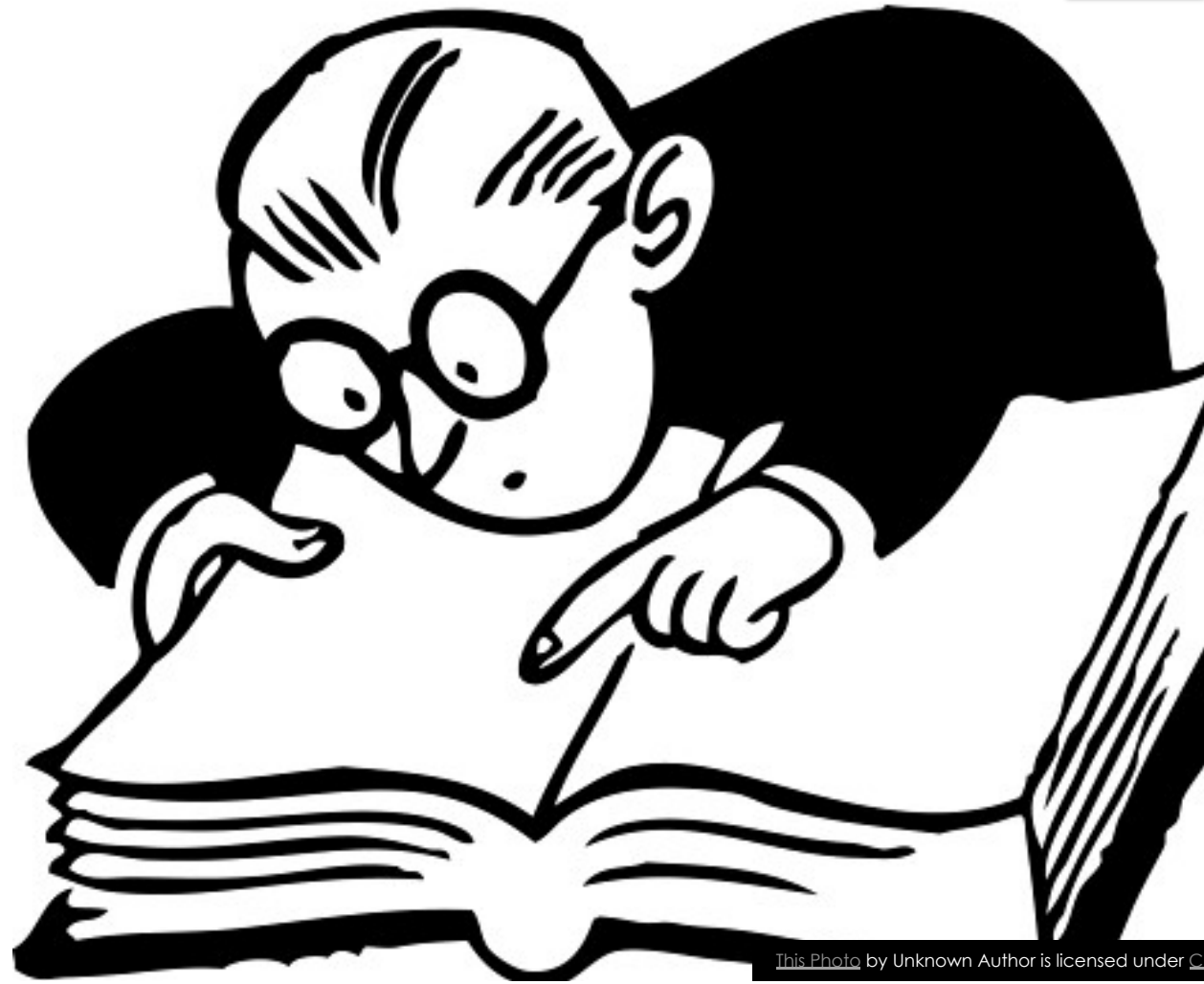


BETHANY BILLINGS  
HAYLEIGH FARISH

# Languages

# What is Language ?

- ▶ The method of human communication, either spoken or written, consisting of the use of words in a structured and conventional way.



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# Origins of Language

Scientists do not agree when human language was first used.

Estimates range from 2,000,000 years ago to 40,000 years ago.

The nature of speech means there is no data to base these conclusions on.

There are over 6,000 languages spoken in the world.

6 properties  
of language

---

Communicative

---

Arbitrary

---

Meaningfully structured

---

Multiply structured

---

Productive

---

Dynamic

# Components of language

- ▶ Phones- are sound types. There are 100 phones or sounds possible.
- ▶ Phonemes- are distinguishable sounds of language. In English they tend to be vowels and consonants. All languages have a different set of phonemes.
- ▶ Phonemics- study of phonemes in various languages
- ▶ Phonetics- written system for representing sounds



# Components of Language continued...

- ▶ Morphemes- simplest units of sounds with meaning (prefixes and suffixes)
- ▶ Lexicon- total set of morphemes a person knows. There is 60,000 morphemes.
- ▶ Vocabulary- number of words a person knows.
- ▶ Syntax- how speakers put sentences together.

# Stages of Language Acquisition

- (1) PRENATAL RESPONSIVITY TO HUMAN VOICES
- (2) POSTNATAL COOING
- (3) BABBLING
- (4) ONE-WORD UTTERANCES
- (5) TWO-WORD UTTERANCES
- (6) TELEGRAPHIC SPEECH
- (7) BASIC ADULT SENTENCE STRUCTURE (BY AGE 4)

Old English

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# Anglo-Saxon

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600- 1100 AD

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Germanic origin.



# Examples of Old English

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle

BEDE's Ecclesiastical History

(King Alfred)

Beowulf

# How is Language Learned ?

- ▶ Psycholinguists says that language is learned by genetically programmed procedures
- ▶ In Other Words: language is learned from in the womb, and the knowledge and understanding of that language is learned throughout life
- ▶ The essential time frame to learn language is during the infant time when children are developing the fastest.

# Proof

- ▶ language doesn't fossilize
- ▶ that means there isn't and concrete proof of all the languages and exact dates when language started.
- ▶ Some languages were used by picture drawings.



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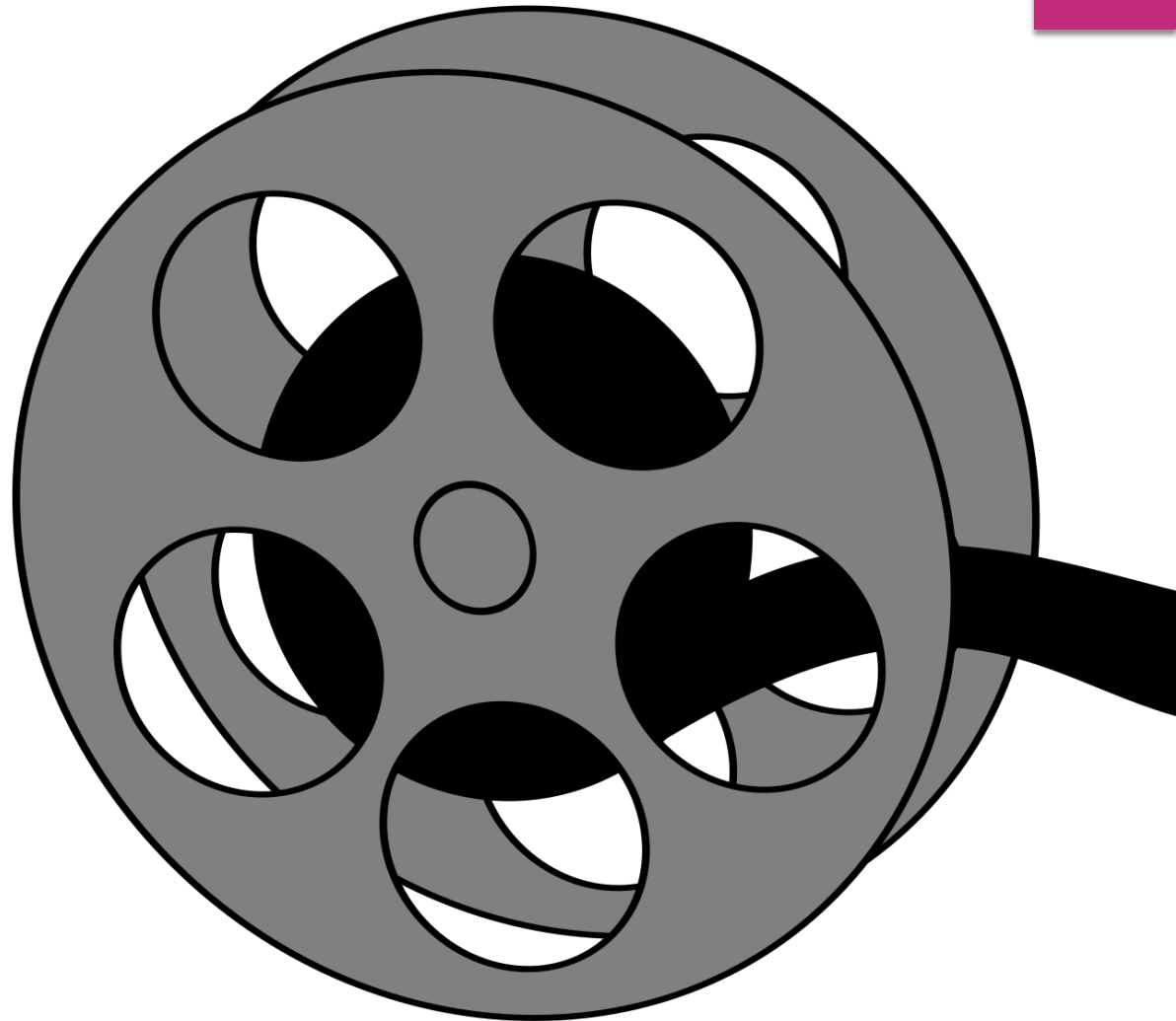




- ▶ Ochres from the Blombos Caves
- ▶ Tattersall (2009) and others have argued that these patterns represent early abstract or symbolic depiction, possibly similar to language. It is certainly within the approximate time span when it is believed that human language arose.

# video1

▶ <https://youtu.be/GvRtIH-3Asc>





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# Video 2

<https://youtu.be/HTJFGHKLDHY>



# Reference Page

[HTTPS://WWW.EDUCATION.COM/REFERENCE/ARTICLE/HOW-LANGUAGE-IS-LEARNED/](https://www.education.com/reference/article/how-language-is-learned/)

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Thank you!