

Concept of Language, definitions,  
functions, principles and  
characteristics.

# Concept of language

Language is a form of human communication by means of a system of a symbols principally transmitted by vocal cord.

A **language** is a system of signs for encoding and decoding information. **Language** refers to the cognitive faculty that enables humans to learn and use systems of complex communication.

**Language**, a system of conventional spoken, manual, or written symbols by means of which human beings, as members of a social group and participants in its culture, express themselves. The functions of language include communication, the expression of identity, play, imaginative expression, and emotional release.

# Definition of language

- **Henry Sweet**: language may be defined as the expression of thought by means of speech sound.
- **Encyclopaedia Britannica**: language is a system of conventional spoken or written symbols by means of which human beings, as member of social group participants in its cultures, communicate.
- **Sapir(1921)**: Language is a purely and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions and desires by means of a system of voluntarily produce symbol

# Principles of language teaching

- Meaningful learning.
- Self confidence.
- The language culture connection.
- Communicative competence.
- Principles of speech, basic sentences, habits
- Principles of vocabulary control
- Principles of shaping responses
- Principles of situational use of language
- Principles of immediate reinforcement

# Characteristics of language

- Language is symbolic.
- Language is social.
- Language is systematic.
- Language is productive and creative.
- Language is vocal.
- Language is arbitrary.(based on or individual direction or preference or sometimes impulse or caprice)

# **Role of language across the curriculum**

- Knowledge development.
- Skill development.
- Ability development.
- Thought development.
- Personality development.
- Thinking development.
- Emotion and conscience development.

**Thank you so much  
dear trainees**