The scope of linguistics and language studies: Some contemporary issues

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Definitions

- Linguistics is "the scientific study of language" (Todd, 1987, p.5). #Longman York Press
- Also defined as "the systematic study of the structure and development of language or of particular languages" (Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary, 3rd Edition)
- Language is "a set of signals by which we communicate" (Todd, 1987, p.6). #Longman York Press
- Also defined as "system of communication consisting of sounds, words and grammar" (Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary, 3rd Edition)
- And Other legitimate definitions

Do they have an obvious boundary?

- See the following example:
- "The study of language" (Yule, 2010). CUP.
- "A concise introduction to linguistics" (Rowe & Levine, 2016). #Routledge.
- No.
- They might be considered as two faces of the same coin and they do have some overlapping domains e.g. both books discuss Phonetics, Phonology, Morphology etc

The scope of linguistics

- Phonetics
- Phonology
- Morphology
- Syntax
- Semantics
- Pragmatics
- Psycholinguistics
- Historical linguistics

The scope of linguistics: continued...

- Discourse Analysis (DA)
- Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA)
- Sociolinguistics
- Corpus Linguistics e.g. BNC, COCA, ACE
- Forensic Linguistics
- English Language Teaching (ELT)
- English as a Lingua Franca
- World Englishes
- Neoliberalism and Applied Linguistics etc
- # Those are constructed as pure versus applied, micro versus macro etc #Emerging due to interdisciplinary contacts

What are contemporary issues?

- The answers are contingent on disciplinary areas. No single answer: Here are some examples:
- # Phonetics:
- "L1-L2 interactions of vowel systems in young bilingual Mandarin-English children" (Jin Yang & Robert A Fox, 2017) # Journal of Phonetics Elsevier.
- # Genre Analysis Discourse
- "The generic structure of the call for papers of predatory journals: A social semiotic perspective" (Ribut Wahyudi, 2017) #Palgrave Macmillan

Some contemporary issues continued...

Pragmatics:

 "When metaphor becomes a joke: Metaphor journeys from political ads to internet memes"
(Anna Piata, 2016) #Journal of Pragmatics – Elsevier

Sociolinguistics

"He's more katakana than kanji: Indexing identity and self-presentation through script selection in Japanese manga (comics)" (Wesley C Robertson, 2017) #Journal of Sociolinguistics – Wiley

Some contemporary issues continued...

- # English as a Lingua Franca (ELF)
- "Using stimulated recall to explore the use of communication strategies in English lingua franca interactions" (Sara Kennedy, 2017) # Journal of English as a Lingua Franca – Mouton De Gruyter
- # World Englishes
- "Translocal English in the linguascape of Mongolian popular music" (Sender Dovchin, 2016) #World Englishes (Journal) - Wiley

Other current issues: Examples from our past projects...

- "Advertising language: A pragmatic approach to cigarette advertisements in Indonesia" (Qadafi & Wahyudi, 2014) # Issues in Language Studies, Universiti Malaysia Serawak
- "Politeness: Front Counter Staff in "X" Mini Market" (Djayanti & Wahyudi, 2015) # International Journal of Indonesian Studies, Monash University, Australia
- "Appraisal Devices on the "X FACTOR INDONESIA" Commentaries" (Chusna & Wahyudi, 2015) # Language Discourse & Society

Other current issues: Examples from our past projects...

- "EFL Students' Uses of UM as Fillers In Classroom Presentations" (Mukti & Wahyudi, 2015) #Journal of Language & Communication, Universiti Putra Malaysia.
- "How it starts and ends: A study of Indonesian stand-up comedy" (Afidah & Wahyudi, 2014), Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa & Sastra UPI Bandung.
- And other current issues...
 - =Thank You=