

**Indian institute of technology of technology madras
Presents**

NPTEL
National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning

Introduction to modern linguistics

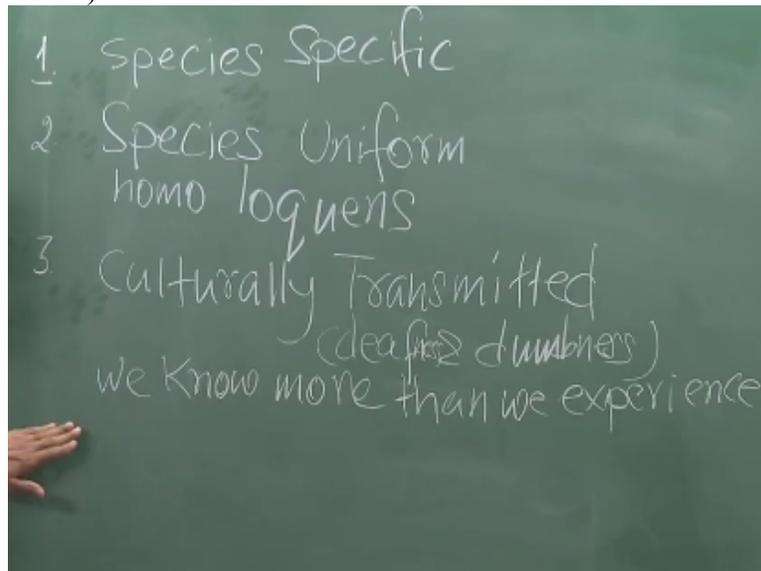
Lecture-3

Design features of language-2

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Good morning we welcome you to the next class in introduction to modern linguistics ,we have been talking about the design features of language last time in the last class we looked at two features can does anyone remember what they were yeah please number one well we said language has content ,but how is language different from natural language different from other media or other mediums of communication yes number one please write human languages, natural languages, are different from other media of communication.

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Because number one number one they are species-specific all you know only human beings have this language you can try teach some words to parrot a monkey or chimpanzee that does not make them talking animals just as a little bit of flying or a little bit of swimming does not

make us a flying creature or a swimming creature that is feature number one of language that only human beings have it the view current today's language is a biological gift please write biological gift to human beings only human beings of it none else.

It is a species specific it is a biological gift to mankind just as flying is to bird swimming is to fish and other kinds of natural attributes are to other creatures that is a unique feature of natural languages you can try and teach some words to parrots ,you can try and teach some words to chimpanzees but that does not make them talking animal just as a little bit of flying or a little bit of swimming does not make us human beings a bird or a fish do you agree everybody please do you agree right the next feature we talked about in the last class was languages, language is spices uniform all human beings men and women black and white brown and yellow people with GE without GE IIT students and VIT students irrespective of class caste color rich poor communist socialist no matter.

Who they are everyone has language just as every human being has two hands two eyes everyone being walks on two feet bipedal as the word is so every human being is a talking creature Greeks called us does anyone remember Homo Luke wins speaking animals Greeks called us whom locals speaking bipedal people okay, we are all that, I am talking chattering constantly sometimes about ourselves mostly about others okay their unique features of it is not there you know in every other kind of thing there are mediums of communication painting.

But can every human being paint yes or no please no some people can sing but can everyone see no some people can do computer language can everyone do that I wish they could okay ,but that doesn't happen okay , these are specific skills but language is a common skill all human beings have natural languages one at least one language all of us are born talking some people may know more words some people may know fewer words some people may write poetry some people may write stories.

But basic ability just as some people are able to lift 80 kilograms some people are able to go without food for three days four days. I know one IIT alumnus on this camp you know is a student of this campus topper of his batch see unfortunately and he after graduating did not pick up a job does consultancy works only one week a year makes enough money and eats only twice a week okay. So some people may be different in ability but basic ability is the same even

that IIT graduate it is only through his mouth needs some nutrition needs water knows all the basic skills required.

So some human beings may have more words human beings may have fewer words but all human beings have all the basic kinds of words so that we can talk to each other this is a common feature of natural language any doubt any questions so far please .I gave you a test do you remember the test what was the test yes mom yeah okay. And in any other medium writing in mother tongue is easy but can you easily do a painting to say this sentence can you say that sentence in it in us in music through music through guitar.

You know you strum the guitar and you say a quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog can you do that you will still need words do you see my point yes or no please that is music swimming ,painting, sculpture ,computer language, they are not common to all mankind but language is common to all of us any problem so far any problem so far how is our lovely god bless you come to today we will be talking about third feature.

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Language is culturally transmitted

- Family, Friends, Relatives
- All parents teach, but don't teach all
- Attitudes, Aptitudes Differ
- Conformity, Contest
- Reinforcement, Resistance

Third feature of human languages it is can you speak it aloud culturally transmitted what is it culturally transmitted okay. That is right culturally transmitted what does that mean it means the following that we have the ability to his speak language to learn language to acquire language nature of God has given us that ability, but that ability will not be realized will not be actuated will not come into use and fulfillment until we hear others speak that is why the children who

are deaf also become dumb deafness and dumbness go together Nature has designed us such that we can learn language.

But it by some accident of birth is some mischance we are deprived of the ability to hear then we cannot speak we yet we acquire language in a different manner the point here is that children learn language they are born they hear language in the family from friends relatives families all that .I am talking from the moment the child is born or even before the child is born even when the child is in the mother's womb there is evidence that suggests that child listens to a spoken language all around him or her the language may not be elaborate.

We never speak to a child the mantras of Vedas etcetera okay after the child is born we may try to teach the child some prayers some slow cars or some tables you know or start preparing for GE by a large children learn language on their own but they listen to people they it is essential condition like a film okay the film can take picture but it must be exposed to the object similarly the human being is biologically designed to learn a language and more languages but the human being requires exposure to the language and this exposure starts even.

Before the child is born all the family all the friends all the relatives all the visitors sometimes the talk is specifically to the child what's your name what would you like where the father has gone mostly dumb questions nobody asked the child how does the taste of chocolate like I gave you yesterday okay, can I tell you a story character yes sir okay once I was going with a very young child in Chennai in an auto rickshaw from are they are too porous wacom north to south to north so long distance the child was getting bored.

So when we were crossing T Nagar I told the child dear child dear child we are now crossing T Nagar just to keep him amused he would not know what T never easy etcetera and then I asked him do you understand we are crossing T Nagar he said yes I understand you are crossing T Nagar and then after some time he asked me do not you have a chocolate Nagar here you know you have T Nagar but do not you have a chocolate mother here is human being you know who told that boy that tea coffee chocolate come in one class.

So child assumed that if there is a T Nagar there may be a coffee Nagar there may be a coke another there may be a Pepsi Nagar but there may also be a chocolate another so this ability in human beings to deduce to logic what we call infer please write in fir you know if you know if

you hear a word which has past tense in ED wanted mended rented then the third word immediately you think move what is the past tense moved ED you add to it okay mended rented wanted chant what will the past tense chanted.

You know this ability is God given this ability but this ability will flower this ability will come into being only when the child is exposed to the language so that is why it is this exposure is required and a third feature of the languages it is culturally transmitted not mechanically maybe you know machine is part of culture but mechanically transmitted know culturally transmitted lot of people use it with one another the child observes his or her relatives his or her friends his or her caregivers nurse teacher maidservant ayah master.

You know the boss of the mother the boss of the father how they talk to each other it is then that we learn social manner no mother or father sits with you today and tells you come sit down today .I am going to tell you how you can talk to your mother-in-law be respectful but do not respect okay does anyone has your mother told you has your father told him even my mother and my father did not tell me. I wish they had okay all of us learn these things from the ambience from the way.

We watch people no human being you know the greatest gift of mankind in languages the ability to tell lies please right the ability to tell lies human beings are the only creatures in the world who can tell lies where were you yesterday. I was in the library sir I know you were at the beach you went to res another beach but you can see I was in the library .I was in the laboratory no dog can do that one dog asks another dog, dog, dog where were you the dog would say well I was chasing a bone and I was waiting at the meat shop it cannot say I was in a library okay dog does not have the ability monkey, lion that is why many of us say many people in modern linguistics languages neuroses says that Darwin's theory that man is a descendant of monkey is a science fiction is not reality.

There are many gaps between monkey and man which Darwin's theory does not explain the ability for mathematics a monkey can assess the distance between two branches accurately so that it is jump is always accurate its leap is always accurate human beings can always also assess the distance between two branches they are also very accurate that is why somebody hits the ball with a cricket bat and the other person runs and catches it that catcher uses 9 different

kinds of knowledge the speed of the ball the angle at which the ball is coming the momentum the velocity the weight the color the angle a whole lot of things.

You make a mistake in one and you drop a catch and you are tried for match-fixing right it happens okay, but there is a difference one monkey cannot tell another monkey the distance between this branch and that branch is 2 meters 35 millimeters can they but human beings can one can always tell the distance between a locker in the hostel and ceremony gate is nothing right human beings have this ability but this ability will come to fruition this ability will prosper will appear only if you listen to language only when exposed there are stories.

That some children were born normally but carried away by wolf to a forest until about the age of 8 or 9 they heard no human language no natural language and therefore they had no language normal child born in a family Peaks it is graded okay first you begin with individual sounds all children all over the world reading in Africa Swahili or what is your favorite City Florida messages are New York no matter where no matter where you know all children begin with individual sounds one of the three either.

You say by how do you say pas or you say ah no forth because of the simple biological reason the tongue is larger than the mouth so the child that difficulty thing the toilet camera suddenly say the first law of thermodynamics is the child cannot there may be exceptions nature of course has exceptions but 99.9% children begin with peripheral songs from sounds they go to syllables Bobby comes Papa R becomes R AE the Marathi word for mother Tata NANA okay nobody says no child Li has been heard.

The first day itself saying give me Lux okay cluster of consonant or I will like pizza for breakfast okay they reach this ability but they take three years four years by the time the child is nine months the child starts putting sounds together in a word Papa mama AE the first day the child said AE there was celebration cakes were cut in modern families in old families where each family had two dozen children okay if the child made a lot of noise they were given two or three slaps you know very good resounding slaps and they were produced wonderful children people like Tagore Einstein Shabazz Bose.

Okay so was most was the fifth child Tagore was the seventh okay, it happened you know Nature has a way the language he learnt my human beings they have the biological ability but

this ability is fulfilled only through exposure may come from any source it may come from parents but these days parents do not have time mother working father working child care of television or care of Google or Wikipedia computer or in the play school or nursery school so family ,friends , relatives actually if you look at the British history of British India.

Then the children of British born in India we are fluent in Indian languages why can you tell me why when the parents knew nothing other than our and Jo come and go they only need these Co yeah that is the only word they knew but the third children knew they were fluent in Indian languages why can you tell me why their caretakers their wet nurses what in Portuguese it called ayah in our languages we have the word ayah a wet nurse they were mostly Indians okay and naturally these nurses not only gave milk to the British children they also gave some Indian languages some songs very Kanaka now one go one cannot go no.

Okay so naturally the child learnt Tamil naturally the child learnt Hindi Telugu okay so no matter where it comes from family friends relatives then the second question arises do all children speak like their parents do all girls speak like their mothers many husbands think so they are not right do all boys you speak like their fathers or mothers yes and no in a large sense yes they speak Telugu they have the same kinds their plural is still you know girl they have the same plural marker the same owner marker.

But in some respect the child has a lot of new words does not have a lot of old words if you compare your Telugu now you know your Telugu is very different from your grandfather's tell you your Tata telling you in two respects you have lot of computer-related words which your father's father or your father's father or your mother's mother did not have she had some words which you do not have if you look at her kitchen her way of transport they traveled on elephant bullock cart boots neutrons travel on bike.

You travel on motorcars you travel in railway trains now Underground trains they did not have those things they are boats they are elephants and they had a special words for them there was a special word for the seat that was put on the back of the elephant what was it called what was the driver of elephant called okay what was the driver a bullock cart called they had a special words for these things today we have different words what is the driver of a motor car called a driver a driver of track C called okay.

A drive and a person who takes care of the car called off in a garage mechanic cleaner we're your parents kept their auks was called change telugu word telugu word okay and we're car is kept garage so in many respect out here for about 25 years I have seen hostile jargon also changing at IIT Madras in the batch of 1980s early 90s the hardly computer related word hardly computer related jargon today you have lot of computer related computer related jargon so all of us learned from our elders our friends our enemies okay they also teach us and sometimes enemies teaches good things.

How to survive okay but it is not all of it we never learned everything that our parents have or want us to learn is that good or bad what do you say good or bad you do not like with a bad is time-bound word the point here is no father or mother is able to teach everything to their child and yet children know a lot do you imagine your mother sat down with you and told you today I am going to teach you how to make passive voice in Telugu did they and yet you look as you can say cow has been stolen milk has been burnt money has been deposited letter has been posted they are all passive voice sentences.

How did you learn them that is the gift of nature you know you need some exposure but please right all of us know more than we experience that is true also of language all of us know more than we experience nobody has sat down and taught us everything but this knowledge will come to us only if we are exposed not without it is in that sense we mean culturally transmitted then there is attitude you know you can say to people do not have this equal number of words there is attitude there is aptitude some people can sing.

We pay them for that but language is common language so there is the question of attitude there is the question of aptitude we have differences some people remember some people write well some people can read well some people can read very fast do you know anyone who can read 300 pages in one day , I have a friend if you like .I can invite her to this class one day she reads a 400 page book in one day and asked her from anywhere she is also an English teacher she is a training manager in a computer company a good friend of mine okay.

So God has given us some ability but the basic ability that we can read and understand we can understand and write we can listen and understand we can understand and speak this is common to all of us differences happen all children do not learn everything enthusiastically you know do you remember first day when you were sent to school you cried your mother had to bribe

you with a chocolate eventually , you were managed you have started going to his school there is reinforcement parents teach you every day uncle klo chap oh hello chopper why should we allow hello geppu you know leave the child alone but you know we forced.

The child say hello to the uncle say good morning Namaskar Mundi okay, do all of these things so there is reinforcement every day 30 times a day your mother will tell you daddy okay why should I get daddy every day why should I do not call me and say something sweet or nice cooking or resistance you are also told how not to do know all children maybe not all children you guys are exceptions perhaps but you know most children are also given prejudices by parents do not talk to that uncle not good okay.

So all my father's brothers are bad according to my mother all my mother's people are bad according to my father okay ,yet look at the beauty of human mind in spite of parents in spite of friends will learn a lot of things but these conditions are complete the sentence fees these conditions are essential unless you have language in use unless you hear language in use you do not learn it you learn more much more than you hear much more than you read but that more will not happen even that limited thing will not happen unless you hear it I will just give you some examples.

I want to see who can read it aloud this is a grandfather telling a tale can somebody please stand up and read it aloud come on quick.

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A Grand Father Tells a Tale

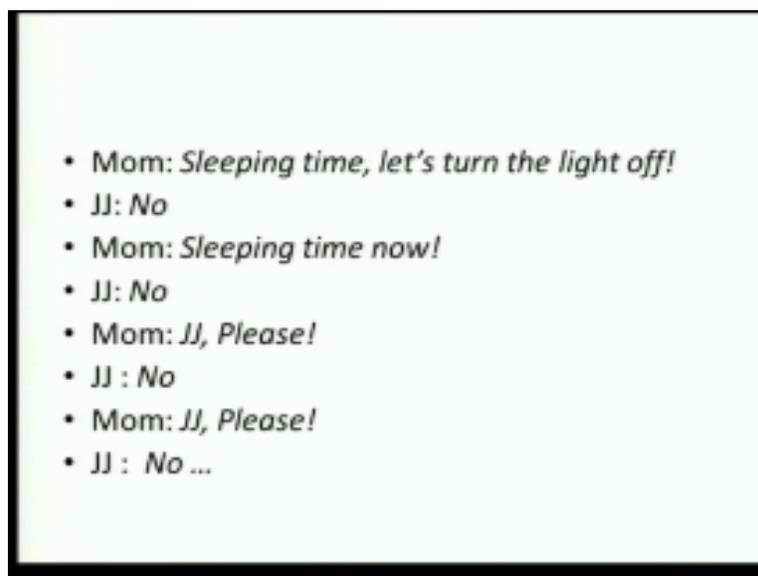
- There was an old man who was going to sell his hat... and he was taking thousands and thousands of hats with him. And he was going from village to town to sell his hats. On the way he was very tired... like the lazy lion, and cool cool breeze was going there, and then he fell asleep. He slept for a while. Up above the tree, there was a monkey, and the monkey saw the hat in the box...

We do not have much time yes please thousands and thousands of hats with him and he was going from village to town to sell his hands on the way he was very tired like the raising hand and the cool breeze was going there and then he fell asleep he slept for way up above the tree there was a monkey and the monkeys of the Hat in the box okay.

You know this is how our you know parents teach us language please sit down thank you this is how we learn language we hear a variety of contexts stories the stories of conversations then suddenly there is a question where is my cap where is my hat so a child hears all kinds of language in its daily life and the child reaches conclusions okay this kind of sentence when you describe this kind of sentence when you answer this kind of sentence when you ask a question this kind of sentence when you are happy Wow this kind of sentence.

When you are sad alas okay sometimes see conversation between mother and son can somebody please read it aloud to people somebody playing mother somebody playing son.

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I want to see if a boy can play mother acting in a pretty come on please do not waste time you know it studio time is you see how much the salary is the equipment the power the technology come on please yes okay, all right you know with the two of you can play mother and child right can you please stand up both of you ladies.

Let us turn the lights off roll one time mother is tired she has cooked for the entire family now it is bedtime with the child says no tell me stories so the mother says sleepy time please continue please sit down thank you this is how you see from very complex stories to simple conversations family gives you a variety okay somebody else two boys please come on now do not be lazy please okay the two of you secondly please stand right.

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The slide is titled "Child to Mother" and contains a list of six dialogue points:

- Child: I am sorry
- Mother: sorry about what?
- Ch: I... I... I...
- M: What does that mean?
- Ch: I don know!
- M: You don't know about what?

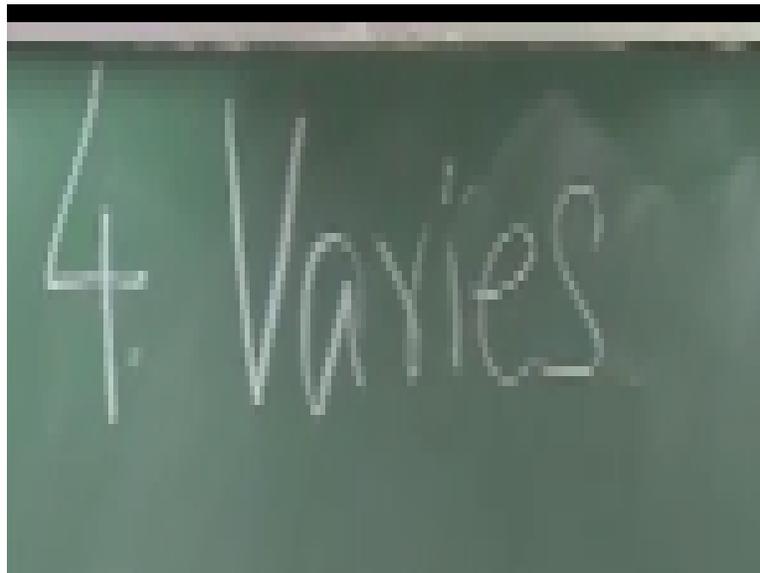
The mother is agent you see this is the see you know I have taken this from real life you know. I am doing a project. I am working on multilingual children so this is my interest third feature please.

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Write what is the third feature first is languages second languages third languages generally transmitted fourth please right language varies.

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It has variations it is not the same in you know though we speak Telugu all over Andhra but Telangana has one kind of Telugu lots of you do there you know. I was in had about 10 years and I thought I could understand the Telugu is spoken there they do not say Nala go personal go on an all-girl they said China sharpest a Charlie charming are the rules in algemene are okay they say chromatin right lots of other words you know, I had Telangana Telugu is very different

from Telugu is spoken in Rajahmundry or spoken in Anantapur or Kurnool etcetera so for Tamil you know family spoken in Coimbatore.

I have friends from Coimbatore have friends from Madurai and Chennai Coimbatore people think the best Tamil is spoken in Coimbatore and moderate people laugh at them the Kaveri sir family life vest Tamil actually they say one strict of Kumbakonam but you know Trichy Kumbakonam madras they say that is where but both Coimbatore and murder people are agreed that Chennai Tamil is washed thoroughly they actually use a word for it the sake they call it panni merely Pig Thurmond bunnies Pig panni they call it Chennai Tamil it panni with pig Tamil you know, I have two friends they frequently have arguments similarly you know Hindi I come from Bihar a people in Delhi count Bihar as Hindi speaking straight when they have to get numbers larger than Bengali and Telugu.

But until we are in richer like that oh we do not care you know because there are differences we do not say my jaw tongue my tongue with your home jati how Martin actually will look down upon those who say my cuppa cricket remain Megara you are doing MAMA like goat okay so language differs across regions language differs across you know class cost everything is fixed the boy likes the girl likes the word dowry is fixed how many brought will go what they eat everything is fixed and suddenly the boy's grandmother discovers.

That the girls still who is not standard she does not speak on throttle she speaks trial cinema Tillamook corrupted entire thing is broken what a pity really okay or you know the she does not a speak class Telugu absolutely Sanskrit laden etcetera or topic same English same terminal same telugu same Sanskrit becomes another language in another context because of the density of words or domain you know you may be two people talking in this class.

But you and I will never use Telugu or Hindi only English but you and I meet in canteen and we do not say how are you is a baboon awry okay sake ma Chippendale are you alright okay there will be mixtures so language changes actually we have it saying in Sanskrit which says that every 20 kilometers with changes every 10 kilometer water changes okay, look at some examples changing language.

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Old & New English

On angynne gesce'op God heofonan and eorðan. Se'o eorðe
wæs soðlice idel and æmtig and þe'ostra wæron ofer ðære
nywetnysse bra'dnysse; and Godes ga'st was gefe'rod ofer
wæteru. God cwæð ða: : Gewurðe le'oh't and le'oh't and wearð
geworhte.

In (the) beginning created heavens and earth. The earth was
truly void and empty, and darkness were over the abyss's surface
and God's spirit was brought over (the) water. God said then: Be
light and light was made .

In time can you tell me what the first paragraph means quietly please look at it quietly? I am going to give you a pencil as gift of course a good pencil good does not send that pencil okay if you can read the first paragraph allowed one person. I want to see if you have something called guts anybody please just a faster do not worry about meaning who can read it aloud do you understand what it means okay , it is Old English this was spoken English was not written generally very late once speaking coats and coats implementation okay, this is what English was spoken until thousand years ago okay.

Can somebody read it aloud try another good wonderful on in your dong Co your day was at least a deal an antique and the Australian offer. There no Whitney see Brad Missy and goddess guest was gift auto fare were true God cuerda gave her the Lord and Lord and where they give or take Old English translation is given their UNI read the translation please aloud and the darkness were over the abyss surface and console it was fought over the water God sent them you see this is how language can change in a thousand years it is another language not only you and I for it both of us English is a foreign language even.

For those who are in England they do not understand Old English it is so changed similarly with Telugu you would not understand Telugu of a thousand years ago or Hindi of a thousand years ago our Sanskrit okay today English is very different in the beginning God created heavens and earth the earth was truly void and empty and darkness were over the abysses surface and God's a spirit was brought over the water God said then be light the light was made see how much it has changed in pronunciation in words.

In the way words are derived in time language changes language also changes in place Hindi in partner is one way if you go to partner and you ask for samosa you would not get samosa you know what samosa is in Patna we eat singhara we do not say hum in Jabalpur where you speak Hindi a young girl can be called by a yet they do by either a year later but do not call a young girl by in Patna or Banaras you will be killed okay by their means a girl who offers service for money okay.

That is a totally different world okay in Rajasthan in Madhya Pradesh in Uttar Pradesh any language it telugu in Visakhapatnam is not the same thing as Telugu in Warangal has telugu in anantpur as Telugu in carp our jet or okay the different places.

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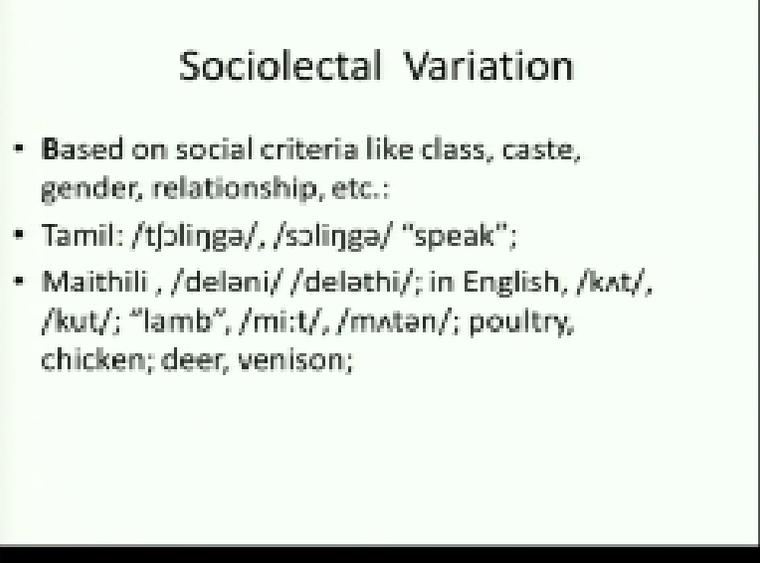
Dialectal Variations

- (According to Region) : Telugu in Telengana, Andhra, Rayalaseema: *chaar aanaa*, *naalugu aanaa*, "a coin" ;
- Hindi in Bihar ("behenji"), in Madhya Pradesh (Baai), in Delhi (Miss); in Bihar /ham/, in Delhi /mæˈn/; in Bihar, /singha:ra:/, elsewhere, /samo:sa/...
- Regional Pronunciation: in Bihar, /gausa:la/, elsewhere /gauja:la/

I have given you lots of examples you know you can come up with your own in it and these differences manifested not just in words they also appear in pronunciation in the Hindi in Bihar we do not have sure we do not say goshala we say go Salah galleon Eden Salah you know we do not have sure we are so similarly in English it is Cu T is cut in London but in Manchester it is could the driver takes a shortcut and what is up what science in the sky is soon and what you travel in his boosts so a bar tells the girl here is Boost Malouf.

The bus has arrived my love but he says here is Boost Maalouf in Manchester but in London it is bus my love language changes in areas in pronunciation okay.

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Sociolectal Variation

- Based on social criteria like class, caste, gender, relationship, etc.:
- Tamil: /tɔlinga/, /sɔlinga/ "speak";
- Maithili, /delani/ /delathi/; in English, /kʌt/, /kʊt/; "lamb", /mi:t/, /mɪtən/; poultry, chicken; deer, venison;

According to class cost also in Tamil Nadu Brahmins called water theritham others call it Thani right Brahmins pronounce showing a churches showing the Kochi okay they do not say so Linga okay and you know it is a it is a great social marker identity marker in English also which does not have many of these class related thing rich people do not take meat they take mutton okay they do not wear a dress they have garments they do not take meal they take dinner they do not take supper they have repast okay. You know these differences the class-based differences are there.

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Topic Related Variation

- Markedness constraints, assumed to be psycho-acoustically grounded, function to assess the intrinsic complexity of various configurations.
- The complicated dynamics of entangled polymers is often visualized in terms of chains that move independently along their own contours through tube-like channels created by other chains in the surroundings.
- If the soft palate is raised so that it touches the back wall of the pharynx, the passage into the nose is closed. The air then cannot escape through the nose at all. Sounds during the production of which the air escapes only through the mouth are called oral sounds.

Are topic related differences it is English but can you tell me which subject the first paragraph comes from which subject second paragraph can you tell me which subject it comes from chemistry biochemistry no physics and third paragraph linguistics biology okay, sooner is the same thing ,but according to topic it differs or same people same to people but in lab they have one kind of language in hostel well you do not even need to speak another kind of language in Sarang Shasta yet another kind of language imagine two IIT B techs meet on a railway train okay or imagine.

Four years later one IIT Beta gets married and invites the other IIT we take what would he say he will write formal letters to a lot of people but to his friend he would say wow finally somebody has agreed to marry me come okay you know.

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Domains of Language Use

- Topic, Place, Time, People
- Home
- Education
- Work
- Transaction
- Religion

So depending upon place , people ,time topic okay and various domains can be their domain of home domain of work domain of transactions religion no matter how in church. In temple in mosque we all use very secret language the point is language varies the fourth feature what is the fourth feature the language varies please look up the book look up it and you will learn more about it thank you have a good day.

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